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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WARRINGTON




ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1967

including the Report of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ERIC H. MOORE
B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.
Medical Officer of Health

HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT, SANKEY ST.,
WARRINGTON
(TEL. 33201)



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COMMITTEES AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967

RELATED HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Mayor, Alderman A. BOYLE

Councillor JAMES PHOENIX, J.P. (Chairman)

Councillor E. J. NAYLOR (Deputy Chairman)

Alderman PERCY MARTIN, J.P.

Councillor G. R. MYLES

Alderman JOHN SMITH

Councillor C. R. PROCTOR

Councillor W. AVERY

Councillor J. C. RICHARDSON

Councillor H. G. EDWARDS

Councillor W. L. ROBERTS

Councillor H. B. LAWLESS

Councillor P. T. H. TURTON

Councillor J. M. MCINTYRE

Councillor E. J. WOODS

HEALTH COMMITTEE

All the members of the Related Health Services Committee plus the following co-opted members :—

Dr. P. DARBY

Mrs. M. ROBERTSON

Dr. P. O'BRIEN

Mrs. W. H. HEALEY

Mr. J. SELWYN JONES

MENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

THE MAYOR

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Alderman JOHN SMITH

Councillor C. R. PROCTOR

Councillor W. AVERY

Dr. P. DARBY

Councillor H. G. EDWARDS

Dr. P. O'BRIEN

Councillor G. R. MYLES

TOWN CLERK

J. P. ASPDEN, Esq., LL.B.

STAFF AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967

WHOLE-TIME STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: ERIC H. MOORE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

ANGELA MANNING, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health:

MARY GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

T. F. LEONARD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

W. P. POVEY, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

MARGARET L. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B. (part-time).

Principal Dental Officer: A. P. FINLAY, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. (Glasg.)

Dental Officers:

Mrs. P. LAWTON, L.D.S., V.U.(Manc.).

J. HULL, L.D.S., R.C.S.(Eng.) (part-time).

C. H. TAYLOR, B.D.S. (part-time).

Miss I. MICHAEL, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

L. K. GRAY, L.D.S.

Orthodontist: Miss J. P. MURRAY, B.D.S., (U. L'pool) L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), D.D.O., R.F.P.S. (Glasg.) (part-time).

Dental Auxiliary: Miss A. RAMAGE.

Chief Public Health Inspector: E. W. WARD, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector: N. A. BUCKLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Superintendent Nursing Officer: Miss A. N. AGAR, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitor's Cert.

Superintendent of Home Nursing Service: Miss C. M. CLAYTON, S.R.N. S.C.M., Q.D.N.S., Health Visitors Cert.

Lay Administrative Officer: A. M. WILBOURN, D.M.A.

Senior Mental Welfare Officer: A. E. JESSOP M.S.M.W.O.

Domestic Help Organiser: Mrs. M. ADAMS

Ambulance Officer: W. H. BELL, F.I.A.O.

Senior Chiropodist: J. C. NEWTON, M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch.

Speech Therapist: Mrs. C. ARNOLD, L.C.S.T.

PART-TIME STAFF

Consultant Obstetrician: Mr. G. W. H. MILLINGTON, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G.

Visiting Medical Officer (Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic): P. O'BRIEN, M.D.

Public Analyst: J. D. SHERRATT, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Warrington.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the state of the health of the town for the year 1967.

The vital statistics call for little comment. The death rate remained at about its usual level and the birth rate declined somewhat. In regard to the loss of infant life 1967 was one of the more successful years and there was a reasonably low infant mortality rate and the lowest still-birth rate recorded in the town, giving a total infant death and still-birth rate of 40.86, which is one of the lowest recorded. Deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus continued to increase and during 1967 54 men and 7 women died from this cause. In my reports in previous years I have drawn attention to the steady increase of this cause of death which has been proved, beyond all doubt, to be intimately connected with cigarette smoking. In the table of comparative statistics it will be seen that the rate per thousand population of deaths for cancer of the lung and bronchus is higher than that for England and Wales as a whole.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.—There was little incidence of communicable disease during the year apart from measles early in the year, which was the end of the 1966 outbreak.

IMMUNISATION.—The figures for 1967 show a considerable reduction in the number of children immunised compared with the previous year. Part of this is due to the fact that the immunisation of certain groups was carried out at the end of 1966 instead of early 1967 on account of anticipated difficulty of medical staffing but, even allowing for this, the public response to requests to have children immunised was rather less than in previous years. Once again I must stress the importance of maintaining a high percentage of the population immunised if outbreaks of diseases which tend to be forgotten are to be prevented. The immunisation rate of the population of Warrington as a whole, especially in the case of diphtheria, is not sufficient to prevent the outbreak of a serious epidemic if the organism is introduced in the community.

NURSING SERVICES.—There was no change in the system of operation of the nursing services during the year. One part-time health visitor attachment was arranged. It was not possible to recruit any nurses for training as health visitors. The question of recruitment of health visitors is a matter of great concern within the Department since they are the “key” social workers. The failure to recruit students is a matter of great seriousness since, unless an adequate supply are forthcoming, it will be impossible to replace the loss

of existing staff occasioned by their retirement and normal movement. The present high educational standard which has recently been imposed seems to debar from training some young women who appear to be eminently suitable for this type of work.

DOMESTIC HELP.—The establishment remained unaltered on the basis of 95 domestic helps, each working 35 hours. The demand for the service continues to increase, largely due to the increasing number of old people in the community, but no necessitous case has been refused help though many cases would benefit from more hours of work per week.

CHIROPODY.—The Chiropody Service operated on the same lines as in the previous year. It is hoped also to appoint a part-time Chiropodist to provide this service in each of the three Hostels newly opened.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.—A certain amount of re-organisation took place within the service and another vehicle was authorised in order to improve the transport arrangements to the Junior Training Centre. There was considerable difficulty over the delivery of the new vehicle but it was found possible to provide an adequate transport service for the Junior Training Centre, thus making it possible for the children to obtain more benefit from their attendance. The accommodation available at the Ambulance Depot is becoming rapidly more inadequate. There is no garage cover for 3 vehicles, which obstruct the small forecourt, and the accommodation in the Depot building itself is inadequate for the number of duty staff. When the position regarding the New Town is clear there is need for urgent provision of an adequate Ambulance Depot, which should be situated as close as convenient to the General Hospital where considerable extensions are taking place.

MENTAL HEALTH.—In the new Junior Training Centre it was possible to open a Special Care Unit and, at the end of the year, 6 children with multiple handicaps were in attendance.

The position regarding the Adult Training Centre remained difficult due to overcrowding, but it is hoped that the new building will be available in the latter half of 1968.

In the field of mental illness the Mental Welfare Officers have continued to work under considerable pressure due to shortage of staff, two trainees attending whole-time courses at Liverpool. The return of one of these in July after successfully obtaining the Certificate in Social Work Training was of considerable assistance, but there is an increasing demand for the services of mental welfare officers, largely occasioned by the local re-organisation which has taken place in regard to their work.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY.—A Cervical Cytology Clinic was opened and is available for the examination of all women over 35 years of age. The response has been poor and the clinic could accept many more patients.

WELFARE SERVICES.—These services continued to be administered through the integrated Health and Welfare Department. There continues to be a considerable shortage of staff on the social welfare side and, until recruits are forthcoming, any expansion of the service will be impossible. Advertisements for Social Welfare Officers have brought no response.

The building of 3 Hostels to replace the former Poor Law Institution, Whitecross Homes, was completed and 2 of the Hostels were taken into use in December, and it is hoped that the third one will be available in the first quarter of 1968. The authority now operates 4 Hostels for the elderly, three new “purpose built”-and one in an adapted house at Lymm. There is no accommodation now remaining in former Public Assistance Institutions.

The removal of the Welfare Services Section, together with Domestic Help and the Finance Section, to the accommodation in Bewsey Chambers has greatly assisted the work of all sections of the Department, though rendering co-ordination a little more difficult. The improved accommodation has allowed extension of the Handicraft Class for the physically handicapped.

The Workshop for the Handicapped, which takes both blind persons and physically handicapped has developed very satisfactorily and, due to the zeal of the Manager, contract work from industry has been forthcoming. The amount of space available is quite inadequate and, in the designing of the New Town, it is essential to consider early construction of adequate premises for this service, which will clearly be very successful.

Meals on Wheels continue to be distributed to an average of 390 per week due to the help of the many voluntary workers who devote much time and energy to the distribution of the meals.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES.—In the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector attention is drawn to the problem of effectively closing or controlling derelict property for the relatively long time which frequently occurs before all the families in the area are re-housed and demolition is completed.

Once again the inadequacy of the statutory standard of overcrowding is mentioned. This inadequate standard continues to obscure the amount of overcrowding in the town according to normally accepted standards. Many requests are received to alleviate overcrowded conditions but inspection usually reveals that the house is not overcrowded within the definition of the Housing Act, and examples are given in the report.

During the year the Related Health Services Committee issued notes to assist people affected by the clearance of unfit houses and redevelopment and the form of these notes is reproduced in the report.

The outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease rendered the County Borough a "controlled area" and subsequently an "infected area". The latter designation applying for over 4 months. Much work resulting from this outbreak fell upon the Police and Chief Public Health Inspector, since Control Order Amendments and cancellations are issued in telegram form and sent to the Police Station at all hours of the day and night for delivery to the Chief Public Health Inspector. The immediate effect of the outbreak was to reduce the number of animals slaughtered locally.

In food hygiene attention is called to the unsatisfactory standards which prevail amongst some of the stalls in the Market. In view of the age of the Market and proposed redevelopment of the Town Centre it would seem uneconomical to carry out any permanent alterations, but some improvements in the basic standards of hygiene are required.

The benefits of the Council's smoke control programme are now apparent in many parts of the town. Considerable progress has been made in reducing emissions of smoke and sulphur fumes from domestic chimneys—more than a 50% reduction in nine years. Unfortunately the emission of dust, grit, odours and fumes from industry continues to be a difficult problem. Measurements taken show figures as high as they were before the Clean Air Act was introduced. The provision of the Act to deal with industrial grit and dust has proved inadequate, and amending legislation is before Parliament. The new provisions will enable local authorities to control the emissions of grit and dust or other airborne particles more effectively, but this legislation also brings new responsibilities to Public Health Inspectors who may be required to carry out the measurements of grit and dust escaping into the atmosphere from industrial chimneys. The two smoke control areas introduced during 1967 brings the total acreage under control to 3,072 acres, which is roughly 65% of the total acreage of the town. Much of the areas that remain are subject to redevelopment and, in consequence, smoke control orders will only apply to the properties which are likely to remain for many years. At the present rate of progress the Clean Air Programme should be completed by 1972.

The Department continues to maintain instruments at 4 sites to determine continuously the daily concentrations of sulphur dioxide and smoke, and the results of these measurements are detailed in the report.

In conclusion I would wish to mention the conscientious work of all members of the staff of the Department during the year and the unfailing

co-operation of the other Corporation Departments. In liaison with other bodies the fullest co-operation has at all times been received. Such co-operation is essential if progress is to be made and we have been fortunate in Warrington in the high standard of "team work" in all those interested in the community.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ERIC H. MOORE,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

General Information

Average height above sea-level :								50 feet.
Area of County Borough in acres	...	...	...	...				4,639
Number of private dwellings (1961)	...	...	...	...				24,425
Number of private households (1961)		...	...	...				24,007
Rateable value, at 1st April, 1966	...	...	...	...				£3,165,319
Rateable value, at 1st April, 1967	...	...	...	...				£3,216,869
Actual product of a penny rate :—								
1966-67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£12,900
1967-68	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£13,020
Population :—								
Census figure, (1961)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75,533
							1967	1966
Registrar-General's Estimates of Popu- lation at June 30th	...	...	...				*73,880	*74,370

*These figures are “ Home population figures ” (i.e., they include members of the Armed Forces stationed in Warrington).

Summary of Vital Statistics

Live Births—						1967		1966			
Legitimate :		Males	603}	1193	656}	1262		
		Females	...	...	...	590}		606}
Illegitimate :		Males	64}	135	67}	137		
		Females	...	...	...	71}		70}
Totals						1328	1399
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population						...	17.97	18.81			
Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population						...	18.87	19.74			
Illegitimate live births—percentage of total live births						...	10.17	10.85			
Still Births—											
Legitimate :		Males	7}	17	14}	21		
		Females	...	...	...	10}		7}
Illegitimate :		Males	1}	1	3}	3		
		Females	...	...	...	0}		0}
Totals						18	24
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 live and still-births .						...	13.00	16.16
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 population ...						...	0.27	0.35
Total live and still-births						...	1346	1423			
Infant Mortality (Deaths of infants under one year of age)											
Legitimate :		Males	20}	29	20}	42		
		Females	...	...	...	9}		22}
Illegitimate :		Males	2}	4	0}	2		
		Females	...	...	...	2}		2}
Totals						33	44
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births—total ...						...	24.70	31.45
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births						...	24.3	33.28			
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births						...	29.63	14.59			
Neo-Natal Deaths (Deaths of infants in first 28 days of life)						...	22	22			
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate...						...	16.56	15.46			
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants in first week of life per 1,000 live births)						...	15.06	14.29			
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births plus deaths in first week of life per 1,000 live and still-births)						...	28.02	30.92			
Total loss of infant life (Still-births plus infant deaths) per 1,000 live and still-births						...	40.86	47.08			
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)						...	—	—			
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still-births						...	0.00	0.00			

	1967	1966
Deaths	970	981
Death Rate per 1,000 home population ...	13.13	13.19
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	14.57	14.64
Deaths from Bronchitis per 1,000 home population	1.08	1.21
Deaths from Pneumonia per 1,000 home population	0.69	0.59
Deaths from Cancer of lung and bronchus per 1,000 home population	0.82	0.77
Deaths from other forms of Cancer per 1,000 home population	1.78	1.80
Marriages	694	693
Marriage rate per 1,000 population	9.41	9.27

Vital Statistics

1948-1967

Year	Per 1,000 Population		Per 1,000 Live Births		Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
	Death Rate	Live Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Neo-Natal Death Rate	Still Birth Rate	Still Births and Infant Deaths
1948	11.2	19.5	46.5	21.0	29.2	73.9
1949	13.4	19.0	80.7	32.0	34.8	113.0
1950	11.9	18.4	38.9	18.4	23.3	61.3
1951	12.07	17.3	38.10	25.9	32.6	69.5
1952	10.59	16.63	35.26	20.26	23.44	57.88
1953	10.38	17.31	24.47	15.83	27.31	49.72
1954	11.62	16.63	36.06	27.79	24.19	61.72
1955	11.74	16.59	28.70	16.61	26.47	54.41
1956	11.23	16.49	37.31	25.89	17.95	54.75
1957	11.53	17.70	30.58	16.35	23.61	53.62
1958	11.17	16.51	24.39	16.01	31.02	54.65
1959	11.23	16.18	31.98	22.62	22.12	53.39
1960	11.90	16.29	23.84	16.92	24.75	48.01
1961	13.62	17.08	38.61	27.03	23.34	61.09
1962	12.12	19.09	22.68	15.12	17.55	39.83
1963	13.32	18.89	28.57	21.60	15.77	43.89
1964	12.17	19.94	32.04	23.36	18.35	49.80
1965	12.13	19.17	16.05	10.46	20.46	38.15
1966	13.19	18.81	31.45	15.46	16.16	47.08
1967	13.13	17.97	24.70	16.56	13.00	40.86

Comparative Statistics, 1967

	Warrington	England and Wales
<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population :</i>		
Live births	17·97	17·2
Deaths (all causes)	13·13	11·2
Respiratory tuberculosis	0·04	0·04
Cancer of lung and bronchus	0·82	0·58
<i>Rates per 1,000 live and still births :</i>		
Still births	13·00	14·8
Maternal mortality	0·00	0·20
<i>Rates per 1,000 live births :</i>		
Infant mortality—deaths of infants under 1 year	24·70	18·3
Neo-natal mortality—deaths of infants in first 28 days of life	16·56	12·5

Causes of Death at different Periods of Life in the County Borough of Warrington

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE GROUP AND SEX																							
	Under 4 weeks		4 Wks. & under 1 year		1 to 5 years		5 to 15 years		15 to 25 years		25 to 35 years		35 to 45 years		45 to 55 years		55 to 65 years		65 to 75 years		75 years and over		TOTALS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis : Respiratory ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	-
Tuberculosis : Other forms ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Syphilitic Disease ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria : Meningococcal ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infections and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm : Stomach ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	5	4	5	4	5	7	17	9
Malignant neoplasm : Lung, bronchus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	2	20	2	2	7	54	7
Malignant neoplasm : Breast ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	4	5	-	-	18
Malignant neoplasm : Uterus ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8
Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasm ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	7	14	12	9	12	35	45
Leukæmia : Aleukæmia ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	4
Diabetes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	5	1	2	11
Vascular lesions of nervous system .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	13	18	15	15	18	33	19	54	63
Coronary Disease : Angina ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	40	40	14	24	24	119	66
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	12	7	13	11	12	26	41	10
Other Heart Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	3	20	33	26	49
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1
Influenza ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	10	4	12	12	34	17
Pneumonia ...	-	-	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	15	15	11	18	18	57	21
Bronchitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	2	2	5	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	4	1	1	6	6
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	4	1	1	1	8
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Pregnancy : Childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations ...	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	2	2	4	2	2	6	7	7	34	31
Motor Vehicle accidents ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	11	5
All other accidents ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	3	12	12	3
Suicide ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES ...	16	6	6	5	1	1	1	6	5	9	4	9	12	45	34	138	52	150	103	217	149	530	440	

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN ORDER OF FREQUENCY

Out of 970 deaths occurring during the year 854 were attributable to the undermentioned principal causes :—

	No. of Deaths	Percentage of Deaths from all causes
1. Heart Diseases	287	29.6
2. Cancer	193	19.9
3. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	117	12.1
4. Bronchitis	78	8.0
5. Other defined and ill-defined causes	65	6.7
6. Other Circulatory Diseases ...	63	6.5
7. Pneumonia	51	5.3

INFANT DEATHS (Under 1 year)

Principal certified Causes of Death	Age at Death									Total
	Under 24 hours	Days				Months				
		1-7	8-14	15-21	22-28	1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Prematurity	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Congenital Malformations	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	6
Respiratory Infection	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	1	1	7
Miliary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Motor Vehicle Accident	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other Accidents	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	11	9	1	1	—	5	2	1	3	33

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate fell from 31.45 in 1966 to 24.70 in 1967.

Of the 33 infant deaths 20 occurred in the first 7 days of life, of which 5 were delivered at home. 3 out of these 5 died in hospital. The causes of death of those babies delivered at home were:

Congenital Malformations....	3
Prematurity	1
Respiratory Distress	1

CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Notifications received during 1967

(Corrected Notifications)

Disease	Age Groups of Cases Notified									Total
	Under 1	1- 2	3- 4	5- 9	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64	65 & over	
Measles	31	88	84	75	11	4	2	—	—	295
Scarlet Fever	1	2	8	9	4	2	—	—	—	26
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	16	20	—	—	36
Whooping Cough.....	4	4	5	5	—	1	—	—	—	19
Tuberculosis (Resp.) :										
Males	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	5
Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Tuberculosis (Non-Resp.) :										
Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery.....	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
TOTALS	37	96	99	92	15	25	22	5	3	394

Venereal Diseases

The following figures are compiled from information received from a number of clinics, including those held in Warrington.

Number of patients resident in Warrington and treated for the first time during the year :—

			1967	1966	1965
Gonorrhœa	...	...	30	20	44
Syphilis	...	...	—	—	—
Other Conditions	...	...	77	88	185

Tuberculosis

The weekly session held at the Patten Hall on Tuesday afternoons continues to be appreciated by the medical profession and the public.

The arrangements for the prevention of tuberculosis and its after-care have followed the same lines as previously.

DOMICILIARY VISITING

Regular visiting of all households from which notifications have been received is accompanied by intensive efforts to trace all contacts with a known case of respiratory tuberculosis.

Details of domiciliary visiting by Health Visitors are given below :—

(a) In connection with newly-notified cases :						
(1)	To patients notified for first time	...	...	...	...	7
(2)	To contacts with new cases	...	...	...	...	11
(b) In connection with cases previously notified :						
(1)	To patients	...	...	...	...	76
(2)	To contacts with old cases	...	...	...	...	84
(c)	Special visits	...	...	...	...	315
TOTAL VISITS						493

B.C.G. VACCINATION

During the year B.C.G. inoculation of school children in the thirteen-year-old age group was carried out.

Number of children mantoux-tested	...	...	886
Number found negative	...	...	817
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	817

INCIDENCE AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

Year	Notifications		Death Rate		
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	All Forms
1948	1.17	0.12	0.58	0.06	0.64
1949	0.75	0.09	0.43	0.04	0.47
1950	0.67	0.09	0.28	0.05	0.33
1951	0.84	0.19	0.27	0.12	0.40
1952	0.93	0.02	0.17	0.05	0.22
1953	1.05	0.07	0.14	0.01	0.15
1954	0.89	0.07	0.15	0.01	0.17
1955	0.78	0.09	0.11	0.01	0.11
1956	1.09	0.12	0.10	0.01	0.11
1957	0.62	0.10	0.03	0.01	0.05
1958	0.88	0.06	0.07	0.01	0.09
1959	0.52	0.01	0.08	0.00	0.08
1960	0.28	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.07
1961	0.45	0.02	0.13	0.00	0.13
1962	0.28	0.02	0.14	0.02	0.17
1963	0.29	0.02	0.14	0.01	0.16
1964	0.20	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.05
1965	0.13	0.08	0.04	0.00	0.04
1966	0.16	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.07
1967	0.08	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.05

DEATHS

There were 3 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis during the year, and 1 death attributable to non-respiratory tuberculosis.

The table of causes of death on page 16 gives the analysis by age and sex of those dying of respiratory tuberculosis.

Prophylactic Measures

Immunisation is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres, and at schools, and also by general practitioners by arrangement with the Authority.

The table below gives details of initial protection given by the injection of prophylactics against diphtheria, smallpox, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and tetanus.

Disease against which protection given	No. of primary courses performed							Performed by Local Health Authority	Performed by General Practitioner
	Born 1967	Born 1966	Born 1965	Born 1964	Born 1960-1963	Others under Age 16	Total		
Diphtheria	214	589	69	30	229	74	1205	953	252
Whooping Cough ...	212	584	68	29	29	—	922	671	251
Tetanus.....	214	589	69	30	229	74	1205	953	252
Poliomyelitis	199	607	81	27	210	19	1143	884	259

Smallpox	Under 1	1 year	2 to 4 Years	5 to 15 Years	Total	Performed by Local H.A.	Performed by G.P's.
	69	382	61	21	533	374	159

RE-INFORCEMENT MEASURES

In addition to the above measures of primary protection the following numbers were given re-inforcement doses :

	By Local Health Authority		By General Practitioners		Total	
Diphtheria	883	...	896
Re-vaccination (Smallpox)	12	...	19	...	31
Poliomyelitis	483	...	530
Tetanus	832	...	900

In my report last year a note of cautious optimism emerged as there had been a slight increase in primary vaccination and immunisation and a large increase in the number of children who had received re-inforcement doses.

It is with regret therefore, that I must report that the figures for 1967 show that the apathy of many parents towards immunisation and vaccination of their children continues. It will be interesting to see whether the publicity campaign for vaccination against measles which will be held in 1968, has any effect on other immunisation procedures.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

During the year under review, the Welfare Services Section of the Health and Welfare Department took over the new office accommodation, made available by the Authority at Bewsey Chambers, but the Administration of the Welfare Services remained fully integrated within the Department. As anticipated in the Report for 1966, this new accommodation has been of considerable assistance in improving working conditions and in bringing together in the one building, all aspects of the Welfare Services' functions of the Department.

Throughout the year however, the Department's Welfare Services functioned under the serious handicap of depleted Social Welfare Staff and suffered a further set-back with the resignation of the newly trained Social Worker immediately following the completion of her two-year training Course. At the end of the year, however, steps had been taken to appoint an additional Welfare Assistant who was due to take up duty at the beginning of 1968. Because of the Staffing position, responsibility for routine visiting of Aged persons remained with the Health Visitors whilst, as in previous years, the one available Social Welfare Officer was deployed primarily in dealing with urgent problems and cases of special difficulty along with admissions to Residential Accommodation and the problems of physically handicapped persons living in the Community.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

At the beginning of 1967, accommodation for persons "in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them" was still mainly provided at the former Poor Law institution, Whitecross Homes, Wakefield Street, Warrington, where accommodation was available for 83 males and 60 females.

In anticipation of the closing of this accommodation however, arrangements were made for a number of younger residents to be transferred to specialised accommodation in Homes for the Physically Handicapped and in Epileptic Colonies, whilst numbers of aged residents were being reduced so far as possible to facilitate arrangements for transfer to the two new purpose-built Homes for the Aged at Orford Hall, Orford, and Houghton Hall, Houghton Green, which were expected to be completed by mid-Autumn. In the event, completion of these two Homes was somewhat delayed but eventually they were completed, furnished, staffed and equipped in time for residents to be transferred to Orford Hall on the 1st December 1967 and to Houghton Hall on the 14th December, 1967, the final evacuation of the Whitecross Homes being on the latter date.

By the end of the year, work on the third new Home for the Aged at Marsden Avenue, Latchford, was proceeding apace and expectations were that this additional 52-place Home would be ready for occupation by early March, 1968.

Throughout the year, the small Home at the Chestnuts, Higher Lane, Lymm, continued to provide a very high standard of Residential Accommodation for a further 21 aged residents but with the opening of the new Homes, it was possible to transfer back to the Town a number of old people who wished to be nearer their relatives and friends and to replace them at The Chestnuts by younger, more active residents from the Whitecross Homes.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

For those who are genuinely homeless in circumstances which could not have been foreseen, the Authority have made available sub-standard properties in which strictly temporary housing can be provided. Where evicted and problem families are involved close liaison is maintained with the Housing Department and the Children's Department, and it is very rarely necessary for the Welfare Services to provide accommodation in these cases.

Welfare Arrangements for Handicapped Persons

BLIND PERSONS

The functions of the Authority in respect of the welfare of blind persons are administered partly directly and partly by the Warrington, Widnes and District Society for the Blind as agents of the Authority.

Two Home Teachers of the Blind are employed by the Authority and work closely with the Society to ensure that a full range of welfare services, both voluntary and statutory, is made available to all blind and partially-sighted persons residing within the County Borough.

In the field of the provision of sheltered employment for blind persons, the activities at the new Workshops at the former Junior Training premises in Richmond Avenue, Warrington, were further extended during the year. With the assistance of Grants from the Ministry of Labour, Disabled Persons Branch additional machinery was purchased and installed and arrangements were made with local Industrial concerns for the manufacture of wooden packing cases, pallets and boxes of various kinds. Other improvements were made at the Workshops, including the provision of additional storage accommodation and the installation of dust extraction equipment in the reel-centre cutting room. Both these developments did much to improve working conditions generally and it is felt that despite the recession arising from economic conditions, at the end of 1967, future prospects for the Workshops are good.

The Workshops at the end of the year provided employment for 16 male and 5 female blind employees with 2 male and 2 female physically handicapped persons continuing to work in the same premises on paper bag assembly.

BLIND and PARTIALLY-SIGHTED PERSONS

1. Numbers on the Register

	BLIND			PARTIALLY SIGHTED		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Numbers on register at 1.1.67	77	72	149	28	43	71
Numbers added to register during year	—	12	12	2	4	6
Numbers on register at 31.12.67	71	75	146	29	43	72

2. FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY-SIGHTED PERSONS YEAR ENDED 31. 12. 67

	Cause of disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D. 8 recommended :				
(a) No treatment :				
Blind Persons ...	—	3	—	9
Partially-sighted persons	—	—	—	3
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical):				
Blind persons ...	—	—	—	—
Partially-sighted persons	—	—	—	3
Number of cases at (b) above, which on follow-up action, had received treatment : Blind Persons	—	—	—	—

During the year no case of retrolental fibroplasia among premature infants was notified.

DEAF PERSONS

The local authority's functions in regard to the welfare of the deaf are exercised by the Warrington and District Society for the Deaf. The number of cases at the 31st December was as follows:

Deaf	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	49
Hard of Hearing	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	36

HANDICAPPED PERSONS (General Classes)

At the end of 1967, there were 231 on the Authority's Register of General Classes of Handicapped. During the year with the transfer of the Welfare Services Section to new accommodation at Bewsey Chambers, improved facilities became available for the Handicraft/Social Centre. Two large workrooms were provided at ground floor level with additional storage and office accommodation for the use of the Handicraft Instructress and ramp access from the car park at the rear of the building. The Class has undoubtedly benefitted in many ways from this transfer and additional handicapped persons have been brought within the scope of the activities of the group during the year. This trend will undoubtedly continue and by December 1967, plans were being formulated to increase the frequency of the meetings of the Class from two to three afternoons per week in the first instance, and a further increase to four afternoons per week when numbers attending make this necessary.

ADAPTATIONS

Alterations designed to assist handicapped persons in their own homes were carried out in 10 cases during the year.

SECTION 47

REMOVAL OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND PROTECTION

No Action was taken under this Section during the year.

BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Arrangements were made in 1 case during the year since, in this case, there was no other person or organisation able or willing to accept responsibility for burial.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

Chiropody for the physically handicapped and for the aged is provided at three Clinics for those persons able to travel either by public transport or by ambulance. In the case of the housebound there is an arrangement whereby the Council of Social Service provide a Domiciliary Chiropodist, in recognition of which the authority pay an Annual Grant to the Council of Social Service which covers chiropody and other services rendered by that body.

MEALS ON WHEELS

A service for the distribution of Meals on Wheels to aged person is carried out. Meals are provided from the Whitecross Homes kitchen and from a Works Canteen and are distributed by voluntary workers from the Royal Women's Voluntary Service and the Council of Social Service. I am most grateful to the volunteers from these Organisations who expend so much time and energy in distributing the meals. Without their help this service could not possibly be operated. An average of 390 meals per week were distributed.

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

During the year the medical staff of the Department carried out medical examinations on selected entrants to the Council's Service and on staff absent owing to illness to advise on their fitness to return to duty.

During 1967, 173 medical examinations were carried out for the purpose of the Sickness Pay Scheme and 110 for other reasons.

Notifications of Birth

The table below gives details of all births notified during the year occurring in the home, or in Institutions, and gives the total number of births finally attributable to Warrington after outward transfer of births attributable to other Authorities. This figure of attributable notified births does not necessarily coincide with the number of attributable registered births supplied by the Registrar-General.

	Domiciliary										Institutional										Totals									
	Live Births					Still Births					Live Births					Still Births					Live Births					Still Births				
	Pre-mature		Mature		Total	Pre-mature		Mature		Total	Pre-mature		Mature		Total	Pre-mature		Mature		Total	Pre-mature		Mature		Total	Pre-mature		Mature		Total
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
Births notified as occurring in Warrington	5	10	218	212	223	222	1	3	224	225	103	90	975	892	1078	982	17	18	1095	1000	108	100	1193	1104	1301	1204	18	21	1319	1225
Births occurring outside Warrington attributable to Warrington (Inward transfers)	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	3	1	3	-	-	3	1	3	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	4	1	4	1	-	-	4	1
Total of all births notified ...	5	10	219	212	224	222	1	3	225	225	103	90	978	893	1081	983	17	18	1098	1001	108	100	1197	1105	1305	1205	18	21	1323	1226
Births occurring in Warrington attributable to other Authorities (Outward Transfers)	-	-	4	1	4	1	-	4	1	1	58	39	550	486	608	525	10	12	618	537	58	39	554	487	612	526	10	12	622	538
Total births attributable to Warrington	5	10	215	211	220	221	1	3	221	224	45	51	428	407	473	458	7	6	480	464	50	61	643	618	693	679	8	9	701	688

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

MATERNAL AND CHILD-CARE

GENERAL

Maternal and Child Care Services are based on the Health and Education Clinic at the rear of the Health and Welfare Department, and at the Health Centre, Orford. These services are supported by two clinics, one of which is held in hired premises.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL SERVICES

Ante-natal clinics are held weekly at the three main clinics in the town. Each expectant mother is seen by a midwife, and in special cases they are referred to the Consultant Obstetrician who attends at Garven Place for a special session when required. Post-natal examinations are generally carried out by a general practitioner who is under contract to carry out these examinations.

Attendance at midwives' sessions	....	....	....	....	1993
Attendances at Consultant Obstetrician's sessions				....	3
Number of expectant mothers attending	....	....	....	....	372

RELAXATION CLASSES

Relaxation classes are held weekly at Garven Place Clinic conducted by health visitors and midwives with the assistance of a part-time physiotherapist. The attendances were :

Number of expectant and nursing mothers attending	...	...	...	...	...	127
Total number of attendances made				...	...	812
Number of classes held	...	...	...	...	...	90

The total number of premature infants born in the area during 1967 was 111. The figure for 1966 was also 111.

PREMATURE INFANTS BORN AT HOME TO WARRINGTON MOTHERS

Weight at Birth	Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Grand Total
	Total	Died within 24 hrs of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs of birth	Sur- vived 28 days	
2-lb. 3-ozs. or less	1	1	—	1	—	1	2
Over 2-lb. 3-oz. up to and including 3-lb. 4-oz.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 3-lb. 4-oz. up to and including 4-lb. 6-oz.	3	2	1	—	—	—	3
Over 4-lb. 6-oz. up to and including 4-lb. 15-oz. .	6	—	6	—	—	—	6
Over 4-lb. 15-oz. up to and including 5-lb. 8-oz.	24	—	24	—	—	—	24
TOTALS	34	3	31	1	—	1	35

13 premature infants died within 28 days, which is 14.4 per cent of the 111 premature infants born during 1967.

CHILD WELFARE

GENERAL

The four Infant Welfare Centres continue to work satisfactorily but it is interesting to note that although the total attendances during the year increased from 11,090 during 1966 to 12,588 in 1967, the number of children who made the attendances fell from 3,150 in 1966 to 2,318 in 1967. This falling away during 1967 in the number of children attending the clinics is very noticeable in the age range 1-5 years. In fact an increase in 1967 was shown for the under 1 year old but over a 50% drop was recorded in the other age groups.

The Toddlers Clinics, which provide a service similar to the School Health Service continued to function throughout the year. Here again the pattern of less children making more attendances is repeated. The full range of specialist services are available, including the special clinics provided by the Education Service.

The Centres being operated at the end of the year were as follows :

13 Folly Lane, Bewsey.

Toddlers Clinic. Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. (By appointment).

Welfare Centre : Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Central Clinic, Garven Place.

Toddlers' Clinic. Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (By appointment).

Welfare Centre. Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Orford Health Centre.

Toddlers' Clinic. Thursday 10 a.m. to 11-30 a.m. (By appointment).

Welfare Centre. Monday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Methodist Schoolroom, Latchford.

Welfare Centre. Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CONGENITAL DEFECTS

During the year arrangements were made whereby every congenital defect which was noticed at birth was notified to the Department. This was done by details of the defect being put on the birth notification card by the midwife who delivered the baby. This system ensures that every child who has been notified as suffering from a congenital defect can be carefully kept under surveillance. During the year 34 congenital defects were reported.

Details of the attendances at these Infant Welfare Centres, and at the three Toddlers' Clinics are given below :

1. INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Name of Centre	No. of Child Welfare Sessions per month	No. of children who first attended and who at first attendance were under 1 year	Number of children who attended during year and who were born in :			Total number of children who attended during year	Number of attendances during the year who at the date of attendance were			Total attendances during the year
			1967	1966	1962-65		under 1 year	1 but under 2	2 & over but under 5	
*Central Clinic, Garven Place .	12	611	565	222	216	1003	3429	665	341	5438
*Bewsey ...	8	217	175	80	88	343	1287	216	200	2046
*Orford ...	12	273	410	179	169	758	2697	514	340	3551
Latchford ...	4	134	149	46	19	214	1098	191	50	1553
TOTALS ...	36	1235	1299	527	492	2318	8511	1586	931	12588

* Includes figures for Toddlers' Clinic, details of which are given separately.

2. TODDLERS' CLINICS

No. of Sessions held	No. of appointments made	No. of toddlers who attended	No. of revisits by toddlers	Total No. of attendances made	No. referred for treatment
154	1566	389	658	1047	48

3. CONSULTATIONS WITH MEDICAL OFFICER

Name of Centre					Under 1 year	1 to 5 years	Totals
Central Clinic, Garven Place	...	...	...	...	638	87	725
Bewsey	...	...	...	...	356	92	448
Orford	...	...	...	...	654	92	746
Latchford	...	...	...	...	187	37	224
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	1835	308	2143

DENTAL CARE

During the year, 363 children of pre-school age were dentally inspected, and 268 commenced treatment. The total attendances in the same period were 453.

The number of expectant and nursing mothers dentally inspected totalled 89, and the number of attendances made for treatment was 217.

General anaesthetics administered totalled 233.

The tables below give details of the work carried out during the year

	Examined	Commenced Treatment	Made Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	89	87	72
Children under 5	363	268	237

	No. of fill-ings	Teeth fill-ed	Ex-trac-tions	Gen-eral Anaes-thetics	Emer-gency visits by pati-ents	Pati-ents X-rayed	Prop-hyla-xis	Other-wise Con-served	Root Fill-ed	Cr'ns and Inlays
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	51	48	116	33	28	6	34	—	—	—
Children under 5	178	154	342	200	163	—	33	16	—	—
Supplied with F.U. or F.L. (First Time)		Supplied with other Dentures		No. of Dentures Supplied		General Anaesthetics				
9		6		23		233				

DAY NURSERIES

The Authority at the end of the year had one Day Nursery in operation providing accommodation for 50 children under the age of five years.

ADMISSIONS

Number of new applications for admission			Number of children admitted		
Short term Cases	Social Cases	Other Cases	Short term Cases	Social Cases	Other Cases
4	54	—	4	36	—

ATTENDANCES MADE AT THE DAY NURSERY
(MONDAY TO FRIDAY)

No. of attendances			No. of days open
0—2 years	2—5 years	Total	
3,478	8,016	11,494	252

The table below gives the number of places in the two age groups at the Day Nursery, and the average daily attendances during the year.

0 to 2 years		2 to 5 years		Total	
No. of places	Average daily attendance	No. of places	Average daily attendance	No. of places	Average daily attendance
14	13·8	36	31·8	50	45·6

There is one private nursery in the town registered under the Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

19 such cases were admitted to various homes during 1967, as compared with 18 in 1966. Close co-operation is maintained between the various homes to which the mothers are admitted and the Authority, in order to secure follow-up of the infants.

Included in the figure of visits paid by the Health Visitors during 1967 are 397 visits to illegitimate children under one year, and 504 to those over one year old.

Priority in the allocation of nursery accommodation is given to the children of unmarried mothers who go out to work.

WELFARE FOODS AND VITAMINS

National Dried Milk and vitamins were available at the Welfare Foods Shop each day, Monday to Saturday, at Infant Welfare Centres during session, and at sessions of the Hospital Ante-natal Clinics. Figures are given below of the sales for 1966 and 1967 for comparison :

	1967	1966
National Dried Milk	13,680 tins	18,690 tins
Cod Liver Oil	1,091 bottles	1,141 bottles
Vitamins " A " and " D "	1,310 packets	1,638 packets
Orange Juice	14,637 bottles	17,419 bottles

HEALTH CENTRES

The Orford Health Centre continued to operate on the same lines as previously. The general practitioner patient attendances remained about the same as in previous years and are as follows:

1964—April to March, 1965	....	....	....	....	15,897
1965—April to March, 1966	....	....	....	....	16,452
1966—April to March, 1967	....	....	....	....	14,160
1967—April to March, 1968	....	....	....	....	15,727

Within the Health Centre also operates an Infant Welfare Toddlers Clinic, and midwives hold Ante-natal Clinics for their patients. A part-time Chiropodist has also been working within the Health Centre, and on one evening a week the facilities are available to the Family Planning Association for the holding of an Advisory Clinic.

The general practitioner part of the accommodation is only used to one-third of its capacity and, in view of the large population living in the vicinity, this is very disappointing.

Negotiations were in progress at the end of the year for revision of the charges in accordance with the Ministry of Health circular.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AND ALLIED SERVICES

HEALTH VISITING

STAFF

At the 1st January, 1967 the staff consisted of:

- 1 Superintendent Nursing Officer.
- 1 Senior Health Visitor.
- 1 Whole-time Health Visitor seconded to a General Practitioners Group.
- 10 Health Visitor/School Nurses.
- 2 Clinic Nurses.

At the end of the year the staff position was:

- 1 Superintendent Nursing Officer.
- 1 Senior Health Visitor.
- 1 Whole-time Health Visitor seconded to a General Practitioners Group.
- 10 Health Visitor/School Nurses (1 reappointment) (1 resignation).
- 2 Clinic Nurses.

Due to the appointment of one of the Field Work Instructors as Senior Health Visitor we have at present only two Field Work Instructors. Two Student Health Visitors were interviewed at the end of the year and arrangements were being made in one case for the Student to attend a Teaching Hospital in order that she might take a three month Obstetric Course prior to commencing training as a Health Visitor.

Student Nurses in training for State Registration spent one day with the Health Visitors for an insight into domiciliary aspects of the Health Visitors work. Student Nurses from a Psychiatric Hospital attend for one day.

Student Nurses in training for S.E.N. also attended.

Four students from the Domestic Science College at Liverpool also spent a day each with one of the Health Visitors during the year.

Close relationships with all General Practitioners are still maintained on the basis of individual approach by Health Visitor to General Practitioner and vice versa with reasonable success. A second attachment of a Health Visitor to a General Practitioner took place during the year for a trial period.

HEALTH VISITORS' DUTIES

Routine visiting on a selective basis of all children under 5 years was carried out. Visits were paid to all notified cases of infectious disease, and advice and after-care in these cases was given.

Visits were made to physically handicapped children under 5 years of age at 3 monthly intervals.

Visiting of the subnormal persons in their own home, and those on holiday from hospital, was carried on as usual.

Sweep tests of hearing of children under 5 years were carried out as requested, and where necessary referred through the Assistant Medical Officer of Health to the Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, who attends the Central Clinic on a Sessional basis.

Routine tests for Phenylketonuria were carried out on all children at 10-14 days and again at 4-6 weeks.

During the year routine visiting of the aged and infirm became a much more detailed part of their work.

The Health Visitor is working with the voluntary services of the Church of all denominations to try to establish closer relationships with the unmarried mother and her parents.

Problem families still take up a large proportion of the Health Visitors' time and much is done to prevent break-up of homes. Close contact is maintained with both voluntary and statutory organisations in efforts to help families as units.

Ante-natal and Post-natal relaxation classes were held weekly at the ante-natal clinic. Film shows and group teaching have proved very successful.

The Health Visitors still continue to attend the Chest Clinic at the local hospital on a rota system, thereby keeping a close liaison between hospital and domiciliary work relating to tuberculosis. Tine tests and readings are carried out for the Chest Physician on all contacts of tuberculosis under the age of 15 years.

One Health Visitor attends fortnightly at the Special Clinic for follow-up visits and reports at the request of the Venereologist.

Health Teaching has been carried out by the Health Visitors to groups of parents of school children, church fellowships and other voluntary bodies.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS

1. Visits to Mothers and Young Children

Number of children under 5 years of age visited during year	Expectant mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children age 1 and under 2 years	Children age 2 and over but under 5 years
	First visits	Total visits	First visits	Total visits	Total visits	Total visits
4,623	417	540	1304	5562	3986	5189

2. Other Visits

For purposes of After-care :	first visits	...	...	...	31
	subsequent visits	...	...	...	7
To the aged and infirm :	first visits	...	...	...	111
	subsequent visits	...	...	...	132
To cases of notifiable disease	...	...	...	...	86
To contacts with cases of V.D.	...	...	...	...	5
Special visits	...	...	...	...	315
Visits to severely sub-normal patients	...	...	...	...	98
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	785

3. Attendances at Clinics and Centres

No. of attendances at Welfare Centre Sessions	...	...	1063
No. of attendances at Ante-natal and post-natal clinic sessions	...	...	41
No. of attendances at Hospital Out-Patient Clinics for purpose of liaison :			
To V.D. Clinic	...	...	9

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education has been carried out during 1967 in much the same way as in previous years. Posters are still being used, although the value of this media as a means of communication is becoming less and less as the pressure from advertising generally increases over the years.

The basic work is mostly carried out by personal contact in the home and at the Clinics or by means of lectures to various organisations by members of the Department.

MIDWIFERY

STAFF

At the 1st January, 1967 the staff consisted of:

- 1 Superintendent Nursing Officer.
- 10 Midwives employed by the Local Authority.

ORGANISATION AND DUTY ARRANGEMENTS

The town is divided into two areas, No. 1 District 5 midwives, No. 2 District 5 midwives, each area providing relief for off duty and holidays. Both areas now interchange due to change of off duty, namely alternate weekends, thereby giving each midwife 6 nights off out of 14.

8 Midwives receive casual-user car allowances, and 2 Auto-cycles. The Ambulance Service provides transport where necessary to convey the midwife and her equipment to night cases.

Midwives operate their own ante-natal clinics at three of the local Authority Clinics. They also attend and instruct at the Relaxation and preparation of child-birth classes at the Central Clinic in conjunction with a Physiotherapist and Health Visitors.

2 midwives attended a 1 weeks Refresher Course during the year and all midwives attended an afternoon conference.

TRAINING

There are 6 teaching midwives on the Local Authority Staff.

The Warrington General Hospital is an approved training school for Part 11.

MATERNITY CASES ATTENDED

There were 440 domiciliary confinements reported and 931 institutional confinements during the year.

Midwives employed by the Authority attended 440 cases (3 where no doctor was booked and 437 where a doctor was booked).

MEDICAL AID

Medical aid was summoned by midwives in 83 domiciliary cases including 82 cases where the medical practitioner had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service Act. The Authority is liable for the payment of the practitioners' fee in the remaining case.

ANALGESIA

All the municipal midwives are qualified to administer analgesia in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives Board. All midwives are equipped for trilene administration. During the year municipal midwives administered analgesics to Warrington mothers as follows:

Trilene	Pethilorfan
376	330

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

35 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified. 30 were hospital cases and 5 in domiciliary practice.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

2 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified during the year.

MATERNITY OUTFITS

A free issue of maternity outfits is made in accordance with Ministry of Health Instructions, namely, to those patients whose confinement will be conducted under the National Health Service arrangement. 365 such outfits were issued during the year.

VISITS PAID BY MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES

	For Ante- natal Care	During Puerper- ium period	After 10th day (for post-natal care)	To Pupils' Cases	For Other Reasons	TOTAL
Doctor not booked	—	12	2	9	30	53
Doctor booked	2561	3411	141	2083	681	8877
TOTALS ...	2561	3423	143	2092	711	8930
Visits to patients discharged from hospital before 10th day						2901

During 1967 578 maternity patients were discharged from hospital before the tenth day of puerperium.

Patients booked for discharge at 48 hours after delivery have again showed an increase in numbers over those booked in 1966.

HOME NURSING

STAFF

At 1st January, 1967, the staff consisted of :—

- 1 Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service.
- 14 Whole-time Home Nurses.
- 1 Part-time Home Nurse.

At 31st December, 1967, the staff consisted of :—

- 1 Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service.
- 14 Whole-time Home Nurses.
- 1 Part-time Home Nurse.

ORGANISATION

The number of new cases dealt with during the year showed a decrease over the previous year but the number of visits paid to all cases was slightly higher than in 1966. The demands on the service tend to fluctuate throughout the year but every request for assistance is dealt with efficiently and promptly.

CASES ATTENDED

The tables below give details of the numbers and types of cases attended, the disposal of cases, and visits paid, by Home Nurses during the year.

Type of Case	No. of cases on books at 1/1/67	No. of cases added to books during year	No. of cases on books at end of year
Medical	341	850	314
Surgical	56	178	42
Infectious Diseases	4	36	5
Tuberculosis	1	4	—
Maternal Complications	1	8	—
Others	15	16	14
TOTALS	416	1092	375

Of the total of 1,092 new cases attended during the year 28 were under 5 years of age, and 599 were over 65 years of age.

1,508 cases were attended during the year. The table below gives details of the disposal of the 1,133 cases removed from the books during the year.

Type of Case	Patients Convalescent	Patients Died	Patients sent to hospital	Patients removed from books for other causes
Medical	387	142	200	146
Surgical	135	9	28	19
Infectious Diseases	27	3	9	—
Tuberculosis	5	—	—	—
Maternal Complications	—	—	—	—
Others	18	—	1	4
TOTALS	572	154	238	169

VISITS PAID

Home Nurses made a total of 47,770 visits to all cases during the year, compared with 47,616 in 1966. Details of the numbers of visits paid to the various types of case are given below :—

To medical cases	39,023
To surgical cases	8,183
To cases of infectious disease	302
To cases of tuberculosis	47
To cases of maternal complications	53
To other cases	162

INJECTION CLINIC

This clinic is held at Garven Place during each afternoon from Monday to Friday. During the year 128 patients made 1,344 attendances at the clinic for the purpose of receiving injections.

BATHS SERVICE

During the year this service which provides trained staff to visit the aged and infirm in their homes to give them baths was continued. The demand for this service also fluctuates from year to year and this year is no exception. 83 old people were given baths and 1,265 visits were paid to their homes by the staff in 1967.

SICK ROOM EQUIPMENT

The purpose of this service is to provide sick room equipment for short periods only. This is a service which is always greatly appreciated by the patients. The number of articles issued during 1967 fell to 463 as against 466 in 1966.

The equipment is only issued following a request from the family doctor or nurse to persons residing in the County Borough. The continuous demand for this type of equipment means that each case has to be reviewed every three months.

Equipment which is required on a permanent basis is not supplied by the Health and Welfare Department, but is obtained from the Ministry of Health on the recommendation of a Consultant Physician.

INCONTINENCE PADS

These pads are supplied where necessary to persons who are in need. No charge is made for this service, but the patient is expected to dispose of the pads where possible. Arrangements can, however, be made for incineration in exceptional circumstances.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

STAFF

At 31st December, 1967 the staff consisted of:

- 1 Domestic Help Organiser
- 2 Domestic Help Visitors
- 1 Clerk/Typist
- 121 Domestic Helps (part time)

ORGANISATION

The Establishment for 1967 remained the same as that for 1966. The number of Home Helps employed at the year end was 121, utilising 95 x 35 hours weekly.

As predicted the Hourly Rate chargeable to persons required to pay the Full Cost increased to 6s. 2d. as a result of a pay award.

Recruitment of Helps with the required qualities continues to be a problem and this, coupled with very close scrutiny of requests for Services, has allowed running costs to be kept below the maximum expenditure figure.

STATISTICS

The following table gives details of the numbers and types of cases attended and the visits paid by Domestic Helps during the year:

Categories of Cases	Total cases dealt with during 1967	Total visits	Cases on books at 31st Dec., 1967
Chronic Sick and Aged	925	60410	743
Tuberculosis	7	567	6
Acute illness	16	118	—
Mothers with young children ...	14	356	7
Maternity	16	97	—
TOTALS	978	61,548	756

As in previous years, the Chronic Sick and Aged category utilised practically 95% of the total help given.

DETAILS OF SOURCES OF APPLICATIONS IN THE YEAR 1967
ARE LISTED BELOW :

General Practitioner	...	...	...	...	75
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	41
Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	7
Home Nurses	...	...	...	...	9
Mental Health	...	...	...	...	1
Ministry of Social Security			...	...	16
Welfare Services	...	...	...	...	7
Midwives	...	...	...	...	8
Blind Welfare	...	...	...	...	6
Applicant or Family			...	...	62
Children's Department			...	...	2
Others	...	...	...	...	14
					<hr/>
					248

During the year the average number of visits each week by domestic helps was 1184, compared with 1242 in 1966.

The Organiser and the two Home Help Visitors have paid 2,642 visits to homes in connection with the service.

VISITS BY DOMESTIC HELPS

	Chronic Sick and Aged	T.B.	Acute Illness	Mothers with young children	Maternity	Total
January ...	4828	43	13	22	12	4918
February ...	4928	42	5	23	11	5009
March ...	5443	49	17	22	20	5551
April ...	4970	42	24	14	—	5050
May ...	5997	50	18	22	17	6104
June ...	4433	40	15	23	16	4527
July ...	4343	38	8	18	—	4407
August ...	5129	51	3	29	—	5212
September ...	4735	53	7	37	5	4837
October ...	4861	51	5	30	—	4947
November ...	4989	54	3	34	5	5085
December ...	5754	54	—	82	11	5901
TOTALS ...	60410	567	118	356	97	61548

It will be seen from the above table that the number of visits to the Mothers with Young Children group has doubled for the year.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

This service continues to be in great demand, there being an increase of 31.19% in the number of treatments given.

It is to be pointed out that the three clinics have now reached saturation point and that it may be necessary in the near future to refuse to take any new patients until the number of patients on the books has decreased somewhat. This is in order that the intervals between treatments should remain constant and should not be too long, for, if the intervals between visits are too long, then the treatments lose their beneficial effects and are therefore, almost a waste of time.

A fact to emerge from the records kept by the chiropodist is that in the course of the year, a total of 436 appointments were broken (i.e. when the clinic was not notified that its patients would not attend). Of these broken appointments, 176 were ambulance patients and 41 were patients who had requested treatment for the first time. In fact, some of this latter group of patients have been sent the requisite three appointments and have still failed to attend or notify the clinic. The number of broken appointments at Orford is about 4 per week, and at Folly Lane about 1 per session in winter and about 1 appointment in every 10 sessions in the summer.

Priority Group	Cases on Books 31/12/66	No. of new cases seen	No. of attend-ances made	Transport		Cases on books 31/12/67
				No. of cases	No. of journeys made	
Aged and Infirm	994	136	5841	136	608	1378
Physically Handicapped	16	4	152	8	40	16
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	—	2	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	1010	142	5995	144	648	1394

Total number of Sessions 771

AMBULANCE SERVICE

ORGANISATION

There was no change in the area covered by the service during the year and special agency cover for the Lancashire County area was again provided.

As a result of the retirement of the Ambulance Driver employed in the Health Department in connection with chiropody transport and transport of pupils to the Junior Training Centre, it was decided to bring all patient handling under one control. In order to achieve this, the vehicle previously operating exclusively from the Health Department was transferred to the Ambulance Service, a replacement driver also being added to the Ambulance Service strength, thus making the driver and vehicle capable of full utilisation. At the same time, it was decided that in order that pupils attending the Junior Training Centre might spend a longer period at the Centre, three vehicles would be employed on this transport and, in order to achieve this, a further vehicle was added to the service strength. The vehicle ordered for this work was a "minibus" of reasonable seating capacity without modification from the makers' specification, it being intended that this vehicle would be used entirely for the transport of fit persons, such as pupils to the Junior Training Centre, adults to the Adult Training Centre and certain forms of handicapped persons. The vehicle was promised for delivery in September, but was not in fact delivered until January 1968 and as a result, difficulty was at times experienced in acquiring the requisite vehicle strength.

In view of the all round increase of work being undertaken by the service, the staff was further increased by 2 day workers during the year. At the close of the year, the vehicle establishment was eleven vehicles and operational deployable staff was twenty-five, controlled by four Control Assistants and the Ambulance Officer.

During the year under review, one vehicle was replaced. The replacement vehicle was of the "dual-purpose" type and built to our specification.

During the year under review, the numbers of persons carried increased by 7,270, an increase of 23% over the previous year, and the mileage increased by 14,406 miles, 11.13%. There was an improvement in the average mileage per patient of a quarter of a mile, the average mileage being 3.1.

During the year, the report of the Working Party on Ambulance Service, Equipment and Training was received. On comparing the standard of equipment already in use on our vehicles with the recommendations in the report, it was found that, with a few small exceptions, our equipment conformed with the requirements. In the near future, certain extra equipment will be provided but, as it is mainly of limited general application, it will be in a readily mobile kit form and will be held in the depot for use when required, such provision being the most economical method of ensuring that the equipment is available if required. As a result of the recommendations on Training contained in the report, certain authorities have set up Training Courses and offer places on a limited scale to outside services. On examination of the content of these courses, and taking into consideration the economics,

it was felt that a similar equally satisfactory syllabus could be produced locally, this method of instituting training being so much less costly than the residential courses offered, that five or six persons could be trained for the same cost as would be incurred in sending only one pupil on a residential course. A pilot course has, therefore, been arranged to commence early in 1968. In the first instance, the course will be confined to new entrants to the service, but it is hoped to expand the scope of this as finances allow.

The service was called upon to attend two railway accidents during the year but, in each case, apart from rendering assistance on the spot, the ambulance services responsible for the area involved were able to transport all the persons involved in their own vehicles.

In our own service area, the main sizeable movement of patients was the removal from Whitecross Homes to the new Home at Houghton Green of some fifty patients in a period of little over three hours.

Transport for the Obstetrical Flying Squad was again provided throughout the year, as also was the transport and supply of emergency oxygen and equipment.

The service again accepted actioned messages for the Home Nursing Service and various other demands for other than true ambulance case transport were met.

Rail transport was arranged on several occasions where this proved the most economical and efficient method of patient movement, but it was necessary on several occasions to arrange journeys of up to 400 miles by our own staff and vehicles.

AMBULANCE SERVICE RESERVE

Under the re-organisation of the Civil Defence Section formerly responsible for the War-time expansion of the service into the New Ambulance Service Reserve, a limited publicity and recruiting programme was instituted. As the main requirement is for drivers, the co-operation of the Licensing Department was obtained and suitable recruiting material is now being issued to persons applying for driving licences. At the time of writing this report, the first application for membership has been received. We require something in excess of one hundred persons to bring the Reserve to operational strength and hope that sufficient members of the public will respond in this respect.

ACCIDENTS

The low rate of incidents to vehicles and persons reported last year again obtained in 1967 and such accidents as did arise were all of a fairly trivial nature.

FALSE CALLS

The Service was again pleasingly free from any large number of such malicious calls.

PREMISES

The expansion of the vehicle strength of the service has resulted in the garage space available being insufficient and three vehicles are now without covered accommodation. It is, therefore, becoming a matter of urgency to

provide the new Ambulance Station. The parking of vehicles in the cramped confines of the depot yard is also a contributory cause of many of the minor cases of damage to vehicles whilst negotiating the inadequate garages.

TRANSPORT TO OTHER THAN WARRINGTON HOSPITALS

The incidence of calls of this nature continued at a high level and forms a significant proportion of the total patient movement. As a result it continues to involve relatively long absences from local deployment of both vehicles and personnel.

STATISTICAL TABLES

The following tables give details of the work carried out in respect of Warrington patients, in the areas operated by agreement with Lancashire County Council, and for other Ambulance Authorities.

WARRINGTON CASES

	No. of patients carried				Miles	
	Emergency	Infectious disease	Sickness	Total	No. run	Average per patient
Ambulances .	1772	13	13516	15301	58065	3·79
Sitting-case vehicles ...	223	24	23916	24163	63728	2·63
TOTALS ...	1995	37	37432	39464	121793	3·08

CASES IN LANCASHIRE COUNTY AREA

	No. of patients carried				Miles	
	Emergency	Infectious disease	Sickness	Total	No. run	Average per patient
Ambulances .	142	—	5	147	1091	7·41
Sitting-case vehicles ...	3	—	—	3	34	11·33
TOTALS ...	145	—	5	150	1125	7·50

CASES IN CHESHIRE COUNTY AREA

	No. of patients carried				Miles	
	Emergency	Infectious disease	Sickness	Total	No. run	Average per patient
Ambulances .	19	—	2	21	178	8.47
Sitting-case vehicles ...	—	—	1	1	16	16.00
TOTALS ...	19	—	3	22	194	8.81

OTHER CASES

	No. of patients carried				Miles	
	Emergency	Infectious disease	Sickness	Total	No. run	Average per patient
Ambulances .	—	1	6	7	145	20.71
Sitting-case vehicles ...	—	—	3	3	48	16.00
TOTALS ...	—	1	9	10	193	19.30

NO. OF PATIENTS TRANSPORTED TO OR FROM OTHER THAN WARRINGTON HOSPITALS

	Winwick	Liverpool	Manchester	Other	Combined Total
Ambulances	417	575	31	215	1238
Sitting-case vehicles	921	342	114	184	1561
TOTALS	1338	917	145	399	2799

SUMMARY

	No. of patients carried		No. of miles run	
Warrington cases	39464	...	121793
Lancashire C.C. cases	150	...	1125
Cheshire C.C. cases	22	...	195
Other cases	10	...	193
TOTALS	39646	...	123305

		1967	1966
Average number of miles per patient :	Ambulances	3.84	4.15
	Sitting-case vehicles	2.64	2.85
	All vehicles	3.11	3.36

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

SUBNORMALITY

At the end of the year 114 patients, as shown below, were in the community care of the authority.

Category of patient	Under age 16		16 yrs. and over		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Subnormal patients receiving routine home visits ...	—	—	2	6	2	6
Severely subnormal patients receiving routine home visits	28	11	27	40	55	51
TOTALS	28	11	29	46	57	57
Patients included in figure above attending Day Training Centres	22	9	13	3	35	12

Routine visitation of subnormal patients is carried out by the Health Visitors, who, for this purpose made 98 visits during the year.

JUNIOR TRAINING CENTRE

During the year the numbers increased from 40 at the beginning of the year to 47 at its close, with a very high proportion of young children, 20 of the 47, being under 8 years of age. Work proceeded along the same lines as in other years, the emphasis of the training being directed to assist these children to take their place in community life and to be as independent as their handicap permits. The year 1967 saw the opening of a Special Care Unit, which was included in the building of the Junior Training Centre. It opened with 2 children with multiple handicaps and increased to 6 by the end of the year. Once again this year a party of children attended during Mental Health Week at Newton-le-Willows Training Centre to take part in an afternoon entertainment given by children from five Training Centres. The children presented a Red Indian Encampment, complete with camp fire, Indian wigwams and colourful costumes, all of which were made in the classes as a group project. On to the stage was brought a covered wagon, which was made again as a school project. In June the first Sports Day was held. It was cold but dry and the children seemed to thoroughly enjoy their races. Quite a number of parents came to watch and the afternoons entertainment finished in the Hall with afternoon tea, followed by presentation of prizes. In October a Harvest Festival was held in the School Hall and the fruit and flowers were given to old folk and school children.

In September the “trainee” member of staff commenced the whole-time two year course of training for the Diploma of Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped. It is clear that the numbers attending this Centre will rise again in the coming year and consideration will need to be given to the further training of staff in order to maintain fully trained staff throughout the Centre.

At the beginning of the September term the transport arrangements were revised to ensure that children arrive earlier and leave later. It has been a matter of some concern that owing to shortage of transport vehicles many children arrived quite late and left early, thus depriving them of some of the advantages of attendance at the Centre. The revised system ensures that formal work can start by 9.30 a.m. and can continue until 3.15 p.m. in the case of infants, and 3.30 p.m. in the case of older children.

Details are given below of attendances at this Centre during the year.

No. of pupils attending at end of year	...	...	...	47
No. of attendances during year	...	...	...	6822

The Centre was open on 181 days during the year and the pupils attained an attendance rate of 88.3 per cent of the maximum attendances possible.

Pupils attending the Centre who are unable to make their own way there are provided with transport to and from their own homes, using the Minibus based at the Health and Welfare Department, and supplemented by transport from the Ambulance Service.

SALISBURY STREET HOSTEL

The Hostel is now well established and continues to provide a useful service. As in previous years staffing difficulties have proved to be the main problem.

At the end of the year there were 9 patients in permanent residence, one being in the Guardianship of the Authority. From time to time, especially during the summer months, patients are admitted for short-term care, in order to allow their parents to take a holiday.

		Under 16 years	Over 16 years	Total
No. of patients resident on 1.1.67	...	4	3	7
No. of patients resident on 31.12.67	...	6	3	9
No. of patient resident days during year	...	...	...	2,730

The Hostel continued to supply hot mid-day meals to the Adult Training Centre during school holiday periods when the School Meals Service closed down. During 1967, 870 meals were prepared.

ADULT TRAINING CENTRE

The staff of the Centre consists of a Manager who is also the Manager of the Workshop for Handicapped Persons, a Supervisor, 1 Instructor, 1 Female Orderly, 15 Male and 10 Female Trainees.

The Centre continues to be highly productive and now has additional work from a plastics firm to add to the variety of the many jobs carried out which include wooden packing boxes for two local firms, assembly of cardboard divisions, wall tiles, punching woven wire filters and making woven wire cylinders, and the making of vegetable crates.

Both staff and trainees are looking forward to the completion of the new centre now being built as it will give greater facilities, i.e. for more trainees, storage space and rooms for Educational and Domestic use.

The Centre was open on 226 days during the year.

Details of attendances are given below :

No. of trainees in attendance at beginning of year	20
No. of trainees in attendance at end of year ...	25
No. of attendances made during year ...	4,987
No. of possible attendances during year ...	5,362
Percentage of possible attendances achieved	93.0

OTHER FORMS OF MENTAL DISORDER

The Mental Welfare Officers are responsible for routine and special visiting of patients affected with other forms of mental disorder. Details of these visits are given below :—

For purposes of after-care	1311
For other purposes	805

3,223 interviews were held by Mental Welfare Officers during the year, as follows :—

At office	504
Home visits	2116
Elsewhere	603

445 patients were admitted to Mental Hospitals through the Mental Health Service, 397 of whom were patients normally resident in the Borough.

Details are given below of the sex and mode of admission of the 445 patients. Where figures are shown in brackets these relate to the number of out-of-borough patients included.

	Males	Females	Total
Admitted informally	139 (12)	151 (13)	290 (25)
Admitted under compulsory powers of detention :			
Section 25 (for observation) ...	36 (2)	37 (3)	73 (5)
Section 26 (for treatment) ...	9 (—)	3 (—)	12 (—)
Section 29 (for observation in case of emergency)	32 (7)	24 (7)	56 (14)
Section 60 (by courts) ...	13 (4)	1 (—)	14 (4)
TOTALS	229 (25)	216 (23)	445 (48)

As in previous years, the figures do not include a small number of admissions not dealt with through the Mental Health Service. It has been observed that although the average length of stay in mental hospitals has been greatly reduced, re-admissions are more frequent. To achieve a fuller integration of the services, a more intensive pre-care and after-care programme was planned, coupled with a revised method of reporting this work more frequently and in greater detail to hospitals and general practitioners. In this, the general practitioners have been of great assistance to the Mental Welfare Officers during the year. There was a greater demand from the Consultant Psychiatrists for fuller social work assistance at Out-Patient Clinics. Help has readily been given to the M.W.O.'s by the Police, Welfare Service, W.R.V.S. etc.

STAFF

During the year, one Mental Welfare Officer returned having qualified for the Certificate in Social Work after a two-year training course. Another trainee Mental Welfare Officer has satisfactorily completed one year of the same course and a more experienced Mental Welfare Officer has been accepted for the one year full-time course commencing in September 1968.

STUDENT NURSES

14 student nurses were accepted from Winwick Psychiatric Hospital for experience of the Health and Welfare Department, including sessions at both the Children's and Probation Department.

POLICE CADETS

Were seconded to the Mental Health Department for periods of 8 weeks for experience of this Department.

GUARDIANSHIP

There was one severely subnormal female patient under guardianship at the end of the year.

ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES

HOUSING

Demolition of Houses



The insanitary and dangerous conditions associated with the clearance of houses continues to be a most difficult problem to resolve. When all the families in a street or terrace are rehoused within a very short time, vandalism and destruction of the vacated houses can be reduced to a minimum and demolition quickly effected. Unfortunately, for several reasons, e.g. the supply of new houses of the appropriate size and in the right locations, the inability or reluctance of some families to pay the higher rents of new houses, the desire to stay in the central areas and similar factors, several streets in Warrington have been partially vacated for periods of up to two years. It is quite impossible to effectively close or control derelict properties for such a long time. Quite clearly the time between rehousing the first and last family in a street or terrace must be reduced to a minimum.

Clearance and Urban Renewal

A number of informal meetings have been called by the Town Planning Consultants to discuss clearance, house improvements and urban renewal in the preparation of the Master Plan for the designated area. The discussions indicate that there is considerable potential for the improvement of a large proportion of the housing stock which would avoid premature clearance.

The plan which has been proposed for urban renewal in the Borough involves concentrating the clearance and the improvement of the existing housing stock in those areas which are to remain residential and where the greatest benefit will be felt by the people residing in these areas from the effect of new development and the general improvement of the environment.

The effect of these proposals is to concentrate improvement and clearance within the Whitecross, Howley and Orford Wards for the next few years.

This strategy will not preclude the demolition of streets or small areas of unfit property elsewhere which require urgent attention.

Overcrowding of Houses

The inadequacy of the statutory standard for determining overcrowding continues to obscure the amount of overcrowding according to normally accepted standards.

We receive on average two or three requests a month, often supported by medical certificates, to alleviate overcrowded conditions. The inspection invariably reveals that the house is not overcrowded within the statutory definition prescribed by the Housing Act. The standard, which is in two parts, is as follows:

(a) Capacity Standard

One room = 2 persons; two rooms = 3 persons; three rooms = 5 persons
four rooms = $7\frac{1}{2}$ persons; five rooms = 10 persons; with an additional two persons for each room in excess of five rooms.

(b) Separation of the Sexes:

The accommodation for a family must be such that no two persons both over 10 years, of separate sexes (other than married couples) *must* sleep in the same room.

Notes:

- (i) Children under 1 year are not to be counted.
- (ii) Children under 10 years old are to count as $\frac{1}{2}$ person.
- (iii) No distinction is made between bedrooms and living rooms.
Rooms other than living rooms, e.g. sculleries, kitchens, back addition rooms used for cooking or as bathrooms are discounted.
- (iv) Rooms between 90-110 sq. ft. = $1\frac{1}{2}$ persons; 70-90 sq. ft. = 1 person; 50-70 sq. ft. = $\frac{1}{2}$ person; under 50 sq. ft. = nil.

A typical example of the inadequacy of the standard

A four roomed terrace house with a back addition scullery. Reference to the capacity standard above shows that since each room is over 110 sq. ft. the ‘‘permitted number’’ is $7\frac{1}{2}$ persons.

The family comprises mother and father, three girls over 10 years old and three children under 10 years old and a baby under 1 year. A total of 9 persons, but since children under one year old are discounted and children under 10 years count as $\frac{1}{2}$ a person the "statutory" number of occupants is $6\frac{1}{2}$ persons and the house is not overcrowded within the statutory definition.

Extent of the problem

The students carried out a brief survey of privately owned properties during 1967 based on sampling techniques recommended by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. An analysis of the results shows:

- (a) that none of the houses visited were overcrowded within the statutory definition.
- (b) the estimated amount of overcrowding using the "bedroom standard" was as follows: Bewsey 4.7%; Orford 7.4%; St. Johns 5.7%; West 2.7%; Town Hall 5.9%; Howley 12.5%; Latchford 7.2%; Fairfield 9.0%; Whitecross 10.7%.
- (c) the estimated total number of overcrowded houses was 1200.*

Notes:

- (i) The unofficial "bedroom standard" is: "each married couple and people over 21 years to have a separate bedroom; persons between 10 and 20 years of the same sex allocated two to a bedroom; persons between 10 and 20 years may share with a child under 10 years of the same sex and any children under 10 years may share regardless of sex." Where necessary bed sitting rooms may be counted but kitchens and dining rooms are ignored.
- (ii) Council houses were excluded from the survey.
- (iii) Many of the overcrowded houses are also in the clearance programme.*

Improvement of houses and overcrowding

A further analysis of the survey shows that approximately 10% of the two bedroomed houses and 4.5% of the three bedroomed houses are overcrowded. The conversion of bedrooms into bathrooms under improvement schemes could aggravate the overcrowding problem, particularly in the Whitecross area where it is estimated that 10.7% of the properties are overcrowded.

HOUSING

The Related Health Services Committee issued the following notes, in booklet form, to assist several thousand people in Warrington affected by the clearance of unfit houses and redevelopment.

"WHAT IS THE CLEARANCE PROGRAMME?"

The programme consists of several thousand unfit houses which have outlived their usefulness and no longer provide living standards for the occupiers. Interspersed among the terraces of unfit houses are a small number of fit houses which cannot easily be treated in isolation because they share party walls with the unfit properties or are structurally linked with unfit properties.

“HOW DO I FIND OUT IF MY HOUSE IS IN THE CLEARANCE PROGRAMME?”

If you are considering selling the property this inquiry will be made by your solicitor through the Town Clerk's office. If you wish to know if your house is included in the programme you should write to the Chief Public Health Inspector. This is particularly important if you intend to carry out extensive repairs, improvements or renovations.

“WHAT IS AN UNFIT HOUSE?”

It is a house which does not comply with the “minimum standard of fitness” prescribed by the Housing Act of 1957. This is the standard which all local authorities throughout the country use when judging the fitness or unfitness of a house. The unfitness may be due to the severe nature of one defect such as instability, dampness or disrepair, or due to a combination of two or more items.

- (a) *Repair*: The house should have been kept in a good state of repair sufficient to prevent serious inconvenience, nuisance or injury to the health of the occupants. The Health Inspector will note such items as sagging roof timbers, broken and missing slates, corroded and leaking eavesgutters, rainwater and soil pipes; open jointed brickwork, porous and decaying brickwork etc. The state of repair or disrepair of the whole of the fabric of the building is assessed both externally and internally and could influence the amount of compensation payable in certain cases.
- (b) *Stability*: Bulging and leaning walls are noted and the probability of any future movement is assessed. The movement of walls frequently causes windows and doors to become ineffective even though the building may not be dangerous.
- (c) *Dampness*: Extensive rising or penetrating dampness caused usually through lack of a damp-proof course or porous brickwork and open joints is a ground of unfitness. Various methods are used to disguise or repel dampness; e.g. wood dados, aluminium or polystyrene rendering of the internal walls and these can make the interior of the home dry for a limited period but the dampness is not eliminated from the brickwork or structure of the building and gradually rises higher in the wall causing plaster to crack and crumble. Dampness caused by defective rainwater pipes, eavesgutters, leaky roofs, can also be a serious nuisance but is more usually included as an item of disrepair.
- (d) *Natural lighting*: This should be sufficient to allow the occupants to read and work without artificial light in good weather. Congested back yards and houses built too close together are the usual source of trouble and in extreme cases houses may be condemned as unfit because of gross overshadowing by factory walls, railway embankments or adjoining houses.
- (e) *Ventilation*: The disrepair of windows or obstruction by lean-to structures frequently prevents adequate circulation of air through the rooms and causes serious problems of ventilation to such an extent as to be prejudicial to the health of the occupants. Bad internal layout, for example a staircase rising directly from a cooking area, kitchen or back living room, can result in steam and gas fumes rising into the bedrooms and causing injury to health. Similarly, water closets and drainage gullies, normally in the yard area, which have been incorporated by

lean-to structures to form part of a back addition scullery can cause serious problems of ventilation.

- (f) *Water supply*: A wholesome water supply must be provided within the house. A polluted supply would be a sufficiently serious defect to render the house unfit.
- (g) *Drainage and sanitary conveniences*: A water closet must be readily accessible and provided for the exclusive use of the occupants of the dwelling. The compartment must be properly lighted and ventilated and in a good state of repair. The W.C. must be connected to an efficient water disposal system, e.g. a public sewer, a septic tank or cesspool capable of dealing with the effluent. Soil drains should be ventilated and provided with manholes for easy cleaning. The drainage of the roof must be adequate and eavesgutters, rainwater pipes, gullies, kept in a good state of repair.
- (h) *Facilities for the storage, preparation and cooking of food and facilities for the disposal of waste water*: Many of Warrington's unfit houses are provided only with a sink and cold water tap. The sink, of necessity, has to be used for all household chores including personal washing, the washing of clothes, disposal of waste water and the preparation of food. This does not comply with the Act. A house must be provided with a suitably ventilated larder or food storage compartment and adequate provisions must be available for the cooking and preparation of food and the disposal of waste water.

“WHAT IS A ‘SUB-STANDARD’ HOUSE?”

A “substandard” house is a house which lacks “standard amenities”. The standard amenities are as follows:

- (i) *A fixed bath or shower in a bathroom*. The shower must be either in a bathroom or in a separate compartment on its own of a size sufficient to allow a person to dry in reasonable comfort. The installation of a shower unit in a bedroom for the use of all the occupants of the house does not meet this requirement, neither does a bath which is installed in a kitchen.
- (ii) *A wash-hand basin*. There is no requirement as to where the wash-hand basin should be installed and it need not necessarily be in the bathroom. The object of the wash-hand basin is simply to separate personal washing from the preparation of food and the washing of clothes etc.
- (iii) *A hot water supply at a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom and at a wash-hand basin and at a sink*. These may be separate hot water supplies such as may be provided by electric or gas heaters at each point, or they may be provided from a single source such as a back boiler and piped to each of the appliances.
- (iv) *A water closet inside the dwelling*. The W.C. need not be inside the existing dwelling. It is sufficient if it can be approached from within the dwelling under a covered way.
- (v) *Satisfactory facilities for storing food*. Generally speaking a permanent larder ventilated to the external air is required but alternative food storage facilities are usually accepted, i.e. ventilated removable cupboards and equipment such as free-standing kitchen cabinets.

“IS A ‘SUBSTANDARD’ HOUSE AN ‘UNFIT’ HOUSE?”

Not necessarily. Quite frequently a house may lack the amenities described above and yet be in an excellent state of repair, free from dampness, instability, and well-lighted, well-ventilated etc. A house which is “substandard” but not “unfit” is not included in the clearance programme unless adjoining an unfit house or added to a clearance area.

“IS AN ‘UNFIT’ HOUSE A ‘SUBSTANDARD’ HOUSE?”

No. The terms should not be confused although they often are. “Substandard” relates to the lack of amenities whereas unfitness depends on the deterioration of the property, usually over a long period. A small percentage of the properties included in the Council’s clearance programme have all the amenities such as bathroom, hot water supply, indoor water closet, food storage facilities, etc., but they have deteriorated into the “unfit” category.

“WHAT OTHER TYPES OF HOUSES ARE INCLUDED IN THE COUNCIL’S CLEARANCE PROGRAMME?”

Some houses are included in the programme because they are badly arranged. The bad arrangement may be due to the narrowness or bad arrangement of the streets or the congestion on site. The bad arrangement or congestion may be such that it is considered to be dangerous or injurious to the health of the occupants.

As an example, some houses are completely overshadowed by factory walls or railway embankments or other houses in the street to such an extent that sunlight rarely, if ever, enters the rooms. The ventilation is impeded by smoke and sulphur fumes from domestic chimneys, even when smokeless fuel is being used. The smoke can be seen pouring down into the small backyards and passages and, because of the poor circulation of air, it remains there to be inhaled by the occupants of the houses. Small yards containing outbuildings and lean-to structures may also obscure the natural light to such an extent that it never penetrates the rear living rooms of the houses. All these conditions can render a house unfit.

In such cases the Council have to put their proposals for clearing the houses to the Minister of Housing and Local Government who will hold a Public Inquiry, usually in the Town Hall, to decide if the Council’s views can be supported. If the Minister agrees that the “bad arrangement” of the streets, houses, etc., is such that they are not fit to live in he will confirm the Council’s proposals but it should be noted that in such cases he will authorize the Council to pay the full market value of the property. The reason for this is that the owners or occupiers may have kept the houses in a good state of repair, free from dampness etc., and they can hardly be blamed for the bad arrangement of the streets and factory walls, some of which may have been built since the houses were erected.

“IF I HAVE KEPT MY HOUSE IN A GOOD STATE OF REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE, DO I RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR THE MONEY SPENT?”

Yes. Many of the houses which are well below the minimum fitness standard quoted have provided comfortable homes for many years. Although the bricks and the structure may be porous and inadequate they have often

been kept in good repair, painted and treated inside to repel dampness; indeed many of the “unfit” houses in Warrington, because of the shortage of replacement houses, will have to continue to provide homes for many years. “Well-maintained” grants may be paid by the Council to both owners and occupiers according to who is responsible for having kept the property in a “well-maintained” condition. Payments are only made for repair and maintenance and not improvements. When you receive a notice from the Health Department informing you that your property is to be demolished or closed you should apply to the Town Clerk’s Department as soon as possible for a grant, and in any event not later than three months after receiving the notice. In the case of Compulsory Purchase Orders this application should be made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

“WHAT METHODS DO THE COUNCIL USE TO CLEAR UNFIT HOUSES?”

There are four methods in common use as follows:

- (i) Compulsory Purchase Orders
- (ii) Clearance Orders
- (iii) Demolition Orders
- (iv) Closing Orders

A Compulsory Purchase Order is used by the Council if they require the land for redevelopment e.g. to build new houses or to redevelop for industrial purposes. The Order may include houses and other properties which are not “unfit”, but which must be demolished to allow redevelopment to take place.

Clearance Orders are used where the Council have no desire to acquire the land and no plans for redevelopment but merely want to see the “unfit” houses demolished. A Clearance Order may affect “fit” houses surrounded by or adjoining “unfit” houses.

Demolition Orders are used to effect the demolition of single streets or terraces of individual houses which are considered to be beyond repair at reasonable expense.

Closing Orders are used to ensure that a house is not used for human habitation or where demolition is impracticable because of its physical association with “fit” houses e.g. one or two “unfit” houses in a row of “fit” houses.

N.B. In the last three cases the land remains in private ownership when the property is demolished.

“HOW CAN I PREVENT THE COUNCIL PUTTING A DEMOLITION OR CLOSING ORDER ON MY PROPERTY?”

The first letter you receive will be from the Chief Public Health Inspector who will tell you that he intends to report to the Council that in his view the house is unfit and that if it is demolished or closed only the occupants on the date of inspection can expect to be rehoused.

You can object at this stage by writing to the Chief Public Health Inspector and telling him why in your view the property is not unfit, but in any event you have a further chance of objecting later as is explained below.

If the Council accept the Chief Public Health Inspector's recommendation the Town Clerk will send you a notice which tells you the time and place when the Related Health Services Committee will be meeting to decide if your property is unfit.

You may attend this meeting or be represented to discuss with the Committee your proposals to make the house fit or to dispute the Chief Public Health Inspector's report. It is advisable to see the Inspector informally before the meeting to discuss the various defects which he says make the house unfit and to put your proposals or objections forward for discussion. If the house can be repaired and improved *at reasonable expense* to take it out of the unfit category you will receive every encouragement from the Council.

If, after listening to your objections or proposals, the Council still decide that the property is unfit and must be demolished or closed you can apply to the County Court to have the decision revoked. This appeal must be made **WITHIN 21 DAYS** of the service of the notice.

“HOW DO I OBJECT TO A CLEARANCE ORDER OR COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER?”

Before sending the Order to the Government Department the Council will publish the Order in a local newspaper AND send every OWNER, LESSEE and OCCUPIER (except tenants of less than a month) and MORTGAGEE (if practicable) a Notice stating the effect of the Order and specifying the time and the way in which objections can be made.

The Minister will order a local “Public Inquiry” to be held, usually in the Town Hall, at which you can tell the Government Inspector why you think your property should be excluded from the Council's proposals. You can also raise other relevant matters, e.g. compensation, rehousing etc. After the enquiry the Government Inspector will visit your property and make his report to the Minister. In due course, usually several months later, the Government Department will notify the Council of the Minister's decision regarding all the properties in the area and the Town Clerk will notify you of the decision relating to your particular property.

At all stages you can discuss matters with the Chief Public Health Inspector or his staff who will be pleased to assist you.

“HOW CAN I PAY THE RENT OF A COUNCIL HOUSE IF I STILL HAVE A MORTGAGE OUTSTANDING ON THE HOUSE WHICH HAS BEEN CONDEMNED?”

Liability for outstanding mortgages. In recent years a number of houses in the Council's clearance programme have changed hands. Upon preliminary inspection the Health Inspector will ask if any mortgage is outstanding. There is a provision in the Housing Act 1957 and the Housing (Slum Clearance Compensation) Act 1965 which may be summarised as saying that where a person has purchased a house which is subsequently included in the Council's clearance programme and demolished or closed they may apply to the County Court to have the terms of the mortgage reviewed or modified if appropriate.

“WHAT AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION WILL I RECEIVE?”

This can only be expressed in general terms as follows:

1. Compulsory Purchase Order

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Unfit houses: | Basically site value but subject to increased compensation mentioned below in (b), (c) and (e). |
| (b) Unfit houses which have been “well-maintained”. | Site value plus a figure calculated as follows:
(a) twice the rateable value if house is tenanted;
(b) four times the rateable value if owner/occupier acquired his interest more than 3 years before the date on which the Order was made;
(c) alternatively in lieu of (a) or (b) above the expenditure on maintenance during the 5 years before the date of the Order less $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the rateable value. |
| (c) Unfit houses purchased by owner/occupier between 13.12.50 and 12.12.55 and the Order is made within 15 years of the date of purchase. | Market value. |
| (d) Houses included by virtue of their “bad arrangement”. | Market Value. |
| (e) Unfit houses used partly or wholly for business purposes by owner/occupiers or tenants for more than a year either on 13.12.55 or at all times during the 10 years preceeding the date of the making of the Order. | Full value of the portion used for business purposes plus site value of the portion used for living accommodation. |
| (f) Houses which are fit or other land and buildings included to acquire satisfactory area for redevelopment. | Market value. |
| (g) Owner/occupiers of unfit houses. | If the amount of compensation payable under other heads of compensation is less than the gross value of the house for rating purposes, it is made up to that figure. |

2. Clearance Orders, Demolition Orders, Closing Orders

- | | |
|---|--|
| (a) Unfit houses. | NIL—site remains in private ownership. |
| (b) Unfit houses which have been well-maintained. | As in 1(b) less site value. |

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| (c) | Unfit houses purchased by owner/occupier between 13.12.50 and 12.12.55 and the Order is made within 15 years of the date of purchase. | Market value less site value. |
| (d) | Houses used partly or wholly for business purposes by owner/occupiers or tenants for more than a year either on 13.12.55 or at all times during the 10 years preceding the date of the making of the Order. | Full value (less site value) of portion used for business.
N.B.—This does not apply in the case of a Closing Order as the house may then, with the Council's permission, be used for business purposes. |

3. *Other payments which may be applicable in certain cases:*

- (a) Some discretionary compensation may be payable to occupiers of business premises for trade disturbance which does not fall in the above categories;
- (b) Business premises adjoining a Compulsory Purchase Area may be entitled to compensation for reduction in their business due to movement of population from the area;
- (c) Removal expenses may be payable by the Council.

Compensation is negotiated on the Council's behalf by the District Valuer in Compulsory Purchase cases and by the Borough Treasurer in the remainder.

In all cases where the Local Authority acquire a person's property under a Compulsory Purchase Order, his Surveyor's fees and proper legal costs will be paid for him, but in other cases he will have to bear his own costs.

NOTE: The foregoing information is given only as a general guide and cannot be held to bind the Local Authority or any of its Officers as to the compensation payable in any particular case.

CLEARANCE OF UNFIT HOUSES

In January the Council decided to discontinue the practice of giving enquirers likely clearance dates. This decision had the immediate effect of greatly increasing the number of requests for detailed inspections of properties in the clearance programme and introduced many practical difficulties.

The present programme comprising some 3,400 houses is intended to be completed by 1978 assuming we receive an average of 300 replacement houses a year. The programme does not pretend to be comprehensive and is continually under review as houses deteriorate or are improved. Only a small percentage of the houses in the programme have been subjected to a thoroughly detailed inspection such as is required before inclusion in a clearance or compulsory purchase order.

Owners and occupiers and others with an interest in the properties are entitled to know our reasons for including the properties in the clearance programme. Whereas previously they would frequently accept an estimated date for clearance together with broad general reasons for inclusion, they must now assume that clearance is imminent and in consequence request more

detailed information, which means an inspection of the property. This year the total official enquiries on property transfers, mortgages and improvement grants has reached the record figure of 1,966 and far too many of these had to be given a detailed inspection to determine the category of unfitness.

The Council's decision underlines the advice we have been giving both verbally and in writing for many years, to the effect that until redevelopment plans for the whole of the County Borough area are finalised and the supply of replacement houses guaranteed by the Council the dates in the clearance programme are tentative. Although the decision absolves the Inspectors from the responsibility of trying to determine when an area is likely to be cleared it is not a particularly good solution to the problem. As an example, the Inspectors have to decide on the extent of any improvements or repairs to the properties. If the area is to be dealt with within say two or three years a long schedule of repairs is clearly unreasonable. Similar considerations apply to mortgage applications. As soon as we can return to giving a reasonable forecast of the likely date of clearance many of these problems will be resolved.

Sub-standard houses

There are several thousand sub-standard houses, i.e. houses lacking hot water, baths, indoor w.c's., wash hand basins, and proper facilities for preparing food, which are not in the clearance programme. It is apparent that because of physical restrictions, e.g. narrowness of streets, lack of space about buildings, congestion on site and bad internal arrangement that probably the majority of them will never be improved or repaired. Recent inspections of some of these properties have shown that they could now be included in the clearance programme, which emphasizes that clearance is a continuing process of demolishing houses which have outlived their usefulness, particularly those originally constructed of poor materials to a very mean specification.

Housing Act 1957—Clearance Statistics 1.1.65 to 31.12.67.

1. Number of houses represented as unfit	....	....	....	....	910
2. Number vacated during the period	....	....	....	....	686
3. Number of families in 1 above					
awaiting rehousing at 31.12.67	....	....	....	....	224

These figures do not include houses cleared for road improvement schemes.

CLEARANCE AREAS

The following areas were represented during 1967:

- WARRINGTON OLD BEWSEY AREA No. 1
Comprising 9 to 25 Lilford Street, 89 to 101 Hoyle Street; 2 to 18 George Street.
- WARRINGTON OLD BEWSEY AREA No. 2.
Comprising 71 to 107 Catherine Street.
- WARRINGTON OLD BEWSEY AREA No. 3
Comprising 10 to 18 Lilford Street; 7 to 21 Pitt Street.
- WARRINGTON OLD BEWSEY AREA No. 5
Comprising 2 to 4 Lilford Street.

RENT ACT 1957

It is doubtful if the Act is of any value in improving the conditions of defective houses. Each year in Warrington the number of applications is at an absolute minimum. Far better results are obtained under the Housing and Public Health Acts (see “Sanitation” chapter and service of repairing notices). The following Rent Act applications were received during 1967:

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

	During 1967	Total Since the Act came into force
<i>APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR</i>		
(1) No. of applications for certificates	3	422
(2) No. of decisions not to issue certificates	—	—
(3) No. of decisions to issue certificates:—		
(a) In respect of some but not all defects	—	94
(b) In respect of all defects	1	74
(4) No. of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the 1st schedule....	2	199
(5) No. of undertakings refused by local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of 1st Schedule	—	—
(6) No. of certificates issued	3	165
<i>APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES</i>		
(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	—	29
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	—	—
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objection	—	—
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	—	23

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING PROPERTIES

The Department dealt with 1,966 enquiries concerning property, made up as follows:

1. Land Charges Act 1925	893
2. Housing (Financial Provisions) Acts, 1958 and 1959—Council mortgages	201
3. Improvement Grants	172
4. Routine enquiries concerning the expected life of property	581
5. Requests for detailed inspections and information... under the Housing Act	119

FOOD INSPECTION

MEAT INSPECTION

Meat inspection is carried out at the slaughterhouse of J. Cross & Sons, Bank Street. All the carcasses and organs were inspected before being released for human consumption.

During the year 2,382 animals were slaughtered, made up as follows:

Cattle (excluding cows)	....	....	....	....	268
Cows	.....	....	....	....	7
Sheep and lambs	....	....	....	....	1,821
Pigs	....	....	....	....	280

It was found necessary to condemn parts of 74 cattle carcasses, 1 cow carcass, 232 sheep and lamb carcasses, and 13 pig carcasses; the diseases found are listed below. It will be noted that we did not have to condemn any carcasses for tuberculosis or cysticercii which is a continuation of a most dramatic decline in the incidence of these diseases.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE

A total of 319 animals were found to be diseased and the following is a summary of the conditions found:

Disease	Weight	Disease	Weight
	lbs.		lbs.
Abscesses	90	Echinococcus	2
Arthritis	4	Necrosis	5
Angiomatosis	12	Nephritis	2
Cirrhosis	145	Parasitic	180
Congestion	11	Pericarditis....	3
Contamination	3	Peritonitis	4
Distomatosis	1,281	Pleurisy	13
Dropsy	15	Pneumonia	11
	1,561		220

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

It was found necessary to condemn the following foodstuffs, inspected in shops, warehouses, stalls, etc.:

Meat at wholesale premises 16 cwt. 31 lbs.; Meat at retail shops 2 cwt. 2 lb.; Cooked meats 96 lbs.; Canned meats 1 ton. 10 cwt. 53 lbs.; Canned foods 5 ton 17 cwt. 66 lbs.; Fish 12 lbs.; Other foods 1 ton 7 cwt. 110 lbs.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT 1959

Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak

The whole of the County Borough became a "controlled area" in which livestock can only be moved on licence from this office, on the 31st October, 1967. Very shortly afterwards, on the 14th November, 1967, this was changed to an "infected area" which involved a complete ban on the movement of livestock other than to the slaughterhouse. The town and surrounding areas were finally declared clear of infection in March, 1968, thus ending one of the longest and most expensive outbreaks in recent years.

The Ministry administrative arrangements for controlling an outbreak involve innumerable control orders, amendments and cancellations which are issued in telegram form and sent to the Police Station at all hours of the day and night for delivery to the Chief Public Health Inspector. I would like to record my appreciation of the first class service given by the Police in dealing with this tedious but necessary procedure.

The outbreak had the immediate effect locally of reducing the number of animals slaughtered for human consumption.

FOOD HYGIENE

Markets and Stalls

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 came into operation on the 1st January, 1967. They lay down a code of hygiene requirements for food trading.

A comprehensive inspection of the meat, fish and main markets reveals that there are 68 food stalls selling a wide variety of foodstuffs. Very few of the stalls comply with the new regulations and in most cases it would be quite impracticable for them to do so. The obsolete and generally unsatisfactory condition of the market means that most stalls are without water supplies or drainage. The stone flag floors are often open jointed and cannot be properly cleansed because of leakage into the storage cellars below. Food handling equipment cannot be effectively cleansed in the stalls, many of which are so lacking in internal space that there is insufficient space to provide proper washing and food preparing facilities, assuming drainage was made available. The problem of selling open food, e.g. meat, cakes, and fish, under such unsatisfactory conditions is aggravated by the contamination from dust which blows through the open market and falls from the market roof trusses.

Exemptions

The Regulations allow exemptions to be given from the liability to provide water supplies, wash hand basins, first aid materials, facilities for washing food and equipment, space for separating unsound and sound food and disposal of trade refuse, provided that suitable facilities are made available by the market authority.

The facilities available to the stall holders are inadequate and cannot be accepted as complying with the Regulations. As an example, the food handlers in the meat and fish markets have to use the public convenience in the street outside the market.

In view of the age of the market and the proposed redevelopment of the town centre it would seem uneconomical to carry out any permanent alterations; nevertheless, improvements in the basic hygiene of the market must be effected. One alternative would be to provide a mobile or temporary sanitary block for the exclusive use of food handlers. Another would be to install temporary drainage facilities to each stall using a pump and piping the water to closed tanks in the basement.

FOOD VEHICLES

Inspections of food trading vehicles operating in the Borough have been carried out and the contraventions are listed below:

- Inadequate washing facilities 3; No name and address displayed 4;
- Inadequate hand washing facilities 4; Absence of first aid materials 2;
- Inadequate facilities for the disposal of waste 2.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

It was found necessary to serve 59 specifications of works to bring various premises up to the standard of the Regulations.

The following table shows the nature of the contraventions found and number of notices or specifications served.

Nature of contravention	Specifications and notices served
Inadequate or non-existent supply of first-aid materials, e.g. bandages, waterproof dressings etc.	9
Insufficient or non-existent facilities for storing clothing and footwear not worn in the food premises	4
Inadequate facilities for washing food and food equipment.	14
Insufficient or unsuitable ventilation of food rooms.	2
Failing to keep walls, floors, ceilings, woodwork in good order of repair and clean.	22
Allowing rubbish and filth to accumulate....	5
Failing to keep articles of food handling equipment clean or in good repair.	4
Failing to protect food from risk of contamination, e.g. at least 18" from the ground.	12
Lack of personal cleanliness, e.g. smoking, spitting, failing to cover open wounds, sores or cuts, using dirty overalls.	1
Failing to keep sanitary conveniences in working order, e.g. water supply, lighting, ventilation and general cleanliness.	29
Failing to provide suitable hand washing facilities, e.g. hot and cold water, soap, nail brush, towels.	27

Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of 13 offences under the regulations, resulting in 11 convictions by the Magistrates with fines and costs totalling £60 4s. 0d. No premises were disqualified from trading during the year.

The following table is included at the request of the Ministry of Health.

Regulation 16 requires suitable and sufficient wash-hand basins with hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes and clean towels to be provided.

Regulation 19 requires suitable and sufficient washing facilities for food and equipment to be provided.

Category of premises	No.	No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	No. of premises to which Regulation 19 applies	No. of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19
Bakehouses	19	19	19	19
Bread and Cake Shops	21	10	20	13
Butchers' Shops	60	52	60	58
Cafes, Restaurants, Snack Bars....	28	25	28	26
Clubs	43	43	43	43
Fish Friers	46	44	46	46
Fishmongers' Shops	15	6	15	14
Grocers' Shops	171	110	163	157
Industrial Canteens	33	33	33	33
Licensed Premises....	85	82	85	71
School Kitchens	15	15	15	15
Sweets & Ice Cream Shops	69	58	45	30
Supermarkets....	20	20	20	20
Various Manufacturing Premises	2	2	2	2
TOTALS....	627	499	594	547

FOOD COMPLAINTS

During the year the Department received 40 complaints of unsound or otherwise unsatisfactory food alleged to have been sold within the Borough, once again an increase on the previous year. Many of these occurrences were comparatively trivial matters and were dealt with informally by the Public Health Inspectors.

Fifteen of the instances were, however, reported to the Related Health Services Committee. In the majority of these cases, the food was either mouldy or was in some way contaminated by insects.

Prosecutions were instituted in two cases, one relating to mouldy sausages and the other to the presence of an insect in a meat and potato pie. Fines were imposed by the Magistrate in both cases. Twelve warning letters were sent on the instructions of the Committee, and in one case the Committee made a recommendation that the shop responsible for selling the offending food should discontinue the sale of quickly perishable foods such as cream cakes.

FOOD HYGIENE AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Lectures on the work of the Public Health Inspector were given to each new intake of student nurses at the General Hospital and lectures were also given to the final year school children.

The following course of lectures was given at the Warrington Technical College:

Food Hygiene for Food Trade Personnel

COURSE TUTOR:

N. A. Buckley, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Warrington C.B.

Subject

Lecturer

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. (a) Introduction to the course | N. A. Buckley. |
| (b) The working of the digestive tract. | |
| (c) Films—"Your digestion";
"Fruit fare". | |
| 2. (a) Food poisoning and the transmission of infection. I. | Dr. M. P. Graham,
Assistant M.O.H.,
Warrington C.B. |
| (b) Film "Another case of food poisoning". | |
| 3. (a) Food poisoning and the transmission of infection. II. | N. A. Buckley. |
| (b) Film—"Food without fear". | |
| 4. (a) 2 p.m. <i>Visit</i> W.C.S. Dairy, Knutsford Road | N. A. Buckley and
Dairy staff. |
| (b) 3 p.m. Protection of food from contamination. | |
| (c) Film—"Fresh not frozen". | |
| 5. (a) Protection of food from contamination with special reference to equipment and premises. (b) Film—"By whose hand". | E. W. Ward, M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I., C.P.H.I. |
| 6. (a) Detergents and sterilisers—their use in the food industry. | W. H. Curran, Hygiene
Advisory Service |
| (b) Film supplied by Lever Industrial Ltd. | Manager, Lever
Industrial Ltd. |
| 7. (a) 2 p.m. <i>Visit</i> : H. J. Heinz Ltd., Kitt Green, Wigan—conducted tour of the canning factory. | Staff of H. J. Heinz
Co. Ltd. |
| (b) Lecture on Quality Control. | |
| 8. (a) Communal feeding—good and bad hygiene practice. | F. Allender, M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I., D.P.A.,
Senior P.H.I. |
| 9. (a) Animal and insect pests in the food and catering trades. | H. Lindsey,
Regional Manager,
Rentokil Laboratories Ltd. |
| (b) Film—supplied by Rentokil Ltd. | |
| 10. (a) The law relating to food and the handling of food. | I. E. M. Buttress, LL.B.,
Assistant Solicitor,
Warrington C.B. |
| (b) Film—"Fish processing". | |
| 11. (a) Revision and consideration of examination questions. | N. A. Buckley. |
| (b) Food hygiene colour slides—consideration and discussion. | |
| 12. Special pre-examination meeting | N. A. Buckley. |

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

(i)

	Number of Samples		Unsatisfactory Reports		Legal Proceedings Instituted	Total Number of convictions secured
	Formal	Informal	Analysis	Labelling		
FOOD	13	80	—	5	—	—
DRUGS	—	5	—	—	—	—

(ii)

Commodity	No. of samples taken	Number unsatisfactory	
		Analysis	Labelling
MILK	9	—	—
CREAM	—	—	—
SOFT DRINKS	3	—	—
WINE	—	—	—
ICE-CREAM	—	—	—
SAUSAGES	16	—	3
MEAT PRODUCTS	9	—	—
TINNED MEAT PRODUCTS	14	—	—

(iii) Number of samples taken for pesticide residues: 2 (included in above).

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

1. Total Number of all samples taken: 26.
2. Results of ice-cream samples:

				Mobiles			Premises			
Grade				II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice Cream	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Ice Cream	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3

3. Other foods:

Sample	No. taken	No. Unsatisfactory
Sausages (all types)	—	—
Meat Pies	—	—
Sliced meats	—	—
Flour confectionery	—	—
Fresh cream	—	—
Synthetic cream	—	—
Milk	23	0

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT 1887 (AND REGULATIONS THEREUNDER)

No serious infringements of the above Act and Regulations were detected during the year. Routine inspections were made and verbal warnings were given where necessary.

FERTILIZER AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT 1926

Seven samples of fertilizer and fourteen samples of feeding stuffs were taken during the year. All but one were found to be satisfactory. No action was taken on the unsatisfactory sample since the variation was not to the prejudice of the purchaser.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

7 Slaughtermen were licensed during the year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT 1958

Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958

Slaughterhouses (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958

A licence authorising the use of premises in Bank Street as a slaughterhouse was renewed for one year, subject to compliance with the provisions of the above Regulations.

Legislation

The following legislation was introduced during 1967:

The Meat Pie & Sausage Roll Regulations 1967

The Canned Meat Product Regulations 1967

The Sausage and Other Meat Product Regulations 1967

The Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations 1967

The Solvents in Food Regulations 1967

The Food (Control of Irradiation) Regulations 1967

The Carceiogenic Substances Regulations 1967

The labelling of Food Regulations 1967

The Coffee and Coffee Products Regulations 1967

The Ice-Cream Regulations 1967

The Margarine Regulations 1967

The first three of the above Regulations prescribe minimum meat content for various meat products. During the year we drew attention to the fact that under the first of these Regulations it is possible to have a meat pie without any meat and yet not contravene the Regulations!!

The Labelling of Food Regulations have been revised with a view to ensuring that people shopping in self-service stores will get a clear indication of what they are buying.

Prospective legislation is before Parliament to remove the control of drugs, including sampling, from the Food and Drugs Act. It is only in recent years that the sampling of drugs, often very expensive items, has been undertaken on any scale by our sampling officers.

The Inspectors participated in sampling foodstuffs for the Pesticides Residues in Food Survey, which was completed in July 1967. Samples submitted from all over the country were examined for residues by a new technique which will detect one part of certain residues in 1000,000,000 parts of foodstuffs—literally equivalent to a needle in a haystack. Preliminary results from the Public Analyst suggest that we have little cause for alarm.

AIR POLLUTION

AIR POLLUTION

General

The benefits of the Council's smoke control programme are now apparent in many parts of the town. Considerable progress has been made in reducing the low level emissions of smoke and sulphur fumes from domestic chimneys—more than a 50% reduction in nine years. (see "Measurement of Air Pollution Trend Figures"—post). The paintwork in the central areas stays cleaner and we rarely receive complaints of smoke nuisance from chimneys. The coal merchants are also co-operating much more than formerly and many are now refusing to sell bituminous coal to people living in smoke control areas.

Unfortunately the emission of dust, grit, odours and fumes from industry continues to be a difficult problem. Measurements of solid deposited matter in the Bank Quay and Sankey Bridges area show figures as high as they were before the Clean Air Act was introduced. The provisions of the Act to deal with industrial grit and dust have proved inadequate and amending legislation has received a second reading. The new provisions will enable local authorities to control the emissions of "grit and dust or other airborne particles" more effectively. The legislation also brings new responsibilities to Public Health Inspectors who may be required to carry out the measurement of grit and dust escaping to atmosphere from industrial chimneys. Training courses have been organised to give specialist instruction in the techniques available.

The new Clean Air Bill also proposes other amendments which will help the clean air programme:

- (i) control over the indiscriminate burning of trade refuse, and waste materials.
- (ii) provides for the Minister to make Regulations controlling the emission of grit and dust from industrial chimneys.
- (iii) control over the height of existing chimneys.
- (iv) to make it an offence to sell bituminous coal in smoke control areas.
- (v) to give the Minister of Housing and Local Government power to require local authorities to make smoke control orders.

The enthusiasm of Warrington residents for smoke control continues unabated—with or without the aid of grant from the Council. The daily sales of gas, electrical, oil and solid smokeless fuel appliances testifies to the desire for the convenience of clean fuels. The two smoke control areas introduced during 1967 bring the total acreage under control to 3,072 acres, which is roughly 65% of the total acreage of the town. Much of the areas that remain, e.g. Whitecross, Winwick Road and Bewsey are subject to redevelopment and in consequence smoke control orders will only apply to the properties which are likely to remain for many years. This will have the effect of accelerating the programme. At the present rate of progress it should be completed by 1972.

The "Clean Air Centre" continues to operate most successfully as a demonstration and administrative headquarters for the implementation of the domestic smoke control programme. Many authorities have visited the premises and have now established their own with a view to encouraging smoke control and fuel efficiency. Although very demanding upon the resources of the staff permanently attached to the Centre it has the advantage of providing suitable accommodation for a function which could no longer be carried out efficiently from the overcrowded offices in Sankey Street.

DOMESTIC SMOKE CONTROL

The Council made two more Smoke Control Orders during 1967 to come into operation during 1968 and 1969 respectively.

NO. 11 DALLAM SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1967

The Order, which will come into operation on the 1st September, 1968, affects approximately 129 acres contained within the following boundaries:

North That part of the County Borough boundary from the intersection with the British Railways London Scottish railway line in a westerly direction to the intersection with the St. Helens canal.

West That part of the County Borough boundary which follows the St. Helens canal in a southerly direction to Bewsey swing bridge.

South From Bewsey swing bridge over the St. Helens canal to the junction of the Dallam and Sankey brooks and thence following the course of the Dallam brook to the intersection with the British Railways London Scottish line.

East That part of the British Railways London Scottish line from its intersection with Dallam brook running north to the Borough boundary.

1.	<i>Estimated total number of dwellings in the area made up as follows:</i>	....	....	....	650
	(a) Council-owned	....	....	....	649
	(b) Privately-owned	....	....	....	1
2.	<i>Estimated total number of commercial and business premises</i>	....			7
3.	<i>Estimated total number of industrial premises</i>	....	....	....	—
4.	<i>Estimated total number of churches, schools, etc.</i>	....	....	....	4
5.	<i>Estimated total number of Government buildings</i>	....	....	....	—
6.	<i>Estimated total number of adaptations required</i>	.....	....	....	550
7.	<i>Estimated total cost of conversions made up as follows:</i>	....	....	....	£17,500
	(a) Warrington Council contribution being 6/10ths of 649 Council-owned properties and 3/10ths of 1 privately-owned property				£10,470
	(b) Exchequer contribution (4/10ths)	....			7,000
	(c) Private owners or occupiers' contribution (3/10ths)				30

N.B.—The above figures are based on an average of £30 per conversion taken from the recommended Table of Costs issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 51/65 and £40 in respect of Tarran type steel framed houses with radiators.

8. *Exemptions of certain classes of domestic fireplaces*
The following fireplace is exempted from the provisions of the Order by virtue of the Smoke Control Areas (Exempted Fireplaces) Order, 1959:

Class of Fireplace:
The fireplace known as the Solid Fuel Ductair Unit manufactured by Radiation Ltd.

Conditions:
The fireplace should be so installed and operated as to minimise the emission of smoke and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions

9. *Partial exemption when "lighting up":*

Class of fireplace:
Fireplaces in buildings or parts of buildings separately occupied without a gas supply.

Conditions:
Only authorised fuels as declared by a Regulation in the Clean Air Act, 1956, and kindling sticks and paper shall be used in the fireplaces.

NO. 12 HOWLEY SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1967

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

An area of 620 acres or thereabouts bounded by a line commencing in the centre of Manchester Road at its intersection with the Borough Boundary and thence running in a westerly direction along the centre of Manchester Road to its junction with Padgate Lane, thence along the centre of Padgate Lane to its junction with Marsh House Lane, thence along the centre of Marsh House Lane to its intersection with the Manchester to Liverpool railway line, thence following the route of the said railway line in a westerly direction to its intersection with Edgeworth Street, thence along the centre of Legh Street to its junction with Sankey Street, thence along the centre of Sankey Street to Market Gate, thence from Market Gate along the centre of Bridge Street to Warrington Bridge, thence along the centre of Knutsford Road to Black Bear Bridge, thence along an imaginary line along the centre of Latchford Canal in a generally northerly direction to its junction with the River Mersey, thence along a similar line in the same direction along the centre of the River Mersey to its intersection with the Borough Boundary, thence along the Borough Boundary in a generally northerly direction to the commencing point.

1.	<i>Estimated total number of dwellings in the area</i>	....	....	2,515
	made up as follows:			
	(a) Council-owned	....	....	230
	(b) Privately-owned	....	....	2,285
2.	<i>Estimated total number of exempted dwellings subject to clearance and redevelopment</i>	....	....	740
3.	<i>Estimated total number of commercial and business premises</i>			471
4.	<i>Estimated total number of industrial premises</i>	....	....	70
5.	<i>Estimated total number of churches, schools etc.</i>	....	....	17

- | | | | | |
|-----|--|------|------|---------|
| 6. | <i>Estimated total number of Government buildings</i> | .... | .... | 5 |
| 7. | <i>Estimated total number of adaptations required</i> | .... | .... | 2,544 |
| | made up as follows: | | | |
| | (a) in Council owned-properties | .... | .... | 230 |
| | (b) in privately-owned properties | .... | .... | 2,314 |
| 8. | <i>Estimated total cost of conversions</i> | .... | .... | £82,680 |
| | made up as follows: | | | |
| | (a) Warrington Council contribution being 6/10ths of 230 Council-owned properties and 3/10ths of the cost of converting privately-owned properties | .... | .... | £27,046 |
| | (b) Exchequer contribution being 4/10ths of the total cost | .... | .... | £33,073 |
| | (c) Private owners or occupiers contribution | | | £22,561 |
| 9. | <i>Exemptions</i> | | | |
| | All properties affected by the Council's clearance or redevelopment plans to be excluded from the provisions of the Smoke Control Order. | | | |
| 10. | The Order to come into operation on the 1st June, 1969. | | | |

MEASUREMENT OF AIR POLLUTION

The Department maintains instruments at the following sites to determine continuously the daily concentrations of SO₂ and smoke.

1. *Health Office, Sankey Street* Mixed area, commercial and industrial with some high density housing and parkland. Housing has been smoke controlled since 1961.
2. *Ambulance Depot, Longshaw Street.* Predominantly residential with medium density housing but interspersed with some industrial undertakings.
3. *Orford Lane Day Nursery.* Predominantly residential with high density terraced housing interspersed with some industrial undertakings and surrounded by other built-up areas.
4. *Richmond Avenue Day Nursery.* Predominantly residential with medium density housing but interspersed with some industrial undertakings.

The sites are coded on a national basis by Warren Spring Laboratory to ensure representative sampling. This is particularly important because our readings are used in the National Survey of Air Pollution.

TREND FIGURES—HEALTH OFFICE MEASUREMENTS

These very encouraging results are believed to be due almost entirely to the reduction in low level emissions from domestic chimneys following smoke control.

						Smoke	S.O ₂
1958	....	....	....	....	....	280	279
1959	....	....	....	....	....	247	252
1960	....	....	....	....	....	224	311
1961	....	....	....	....	....	183	281
1962	....	....	....	....	....	194	264
1963	....	....	....	....	....	164	253
1964	....	....	....	....	....	152	224
1965	....	....	....	....	....	135	195
1966	....	....	....	....	....	101	187

Although the ground level concentration of SO_2 and Smoke, largely attributable to the domestic consumption of bituminous coal, has reduced dramatically in consequence of smoke control, the air pollution from industry is still high. The following results for the month of May, 1967 confirm local knowledge that Bank Quay, Quay Fold and Sankey Bridges are dirty areas.

1st May to 1st June, 1967

(a) *Bank Quay*

TOTAL SOLIDS....43.39 tons per square mile.

(b) *Quay Fold :*

TOTAL SOLIDS—34.56 tons per square mile.

(c) *Sankey Bridges:*

TOTAL SOLIDS—34.39 tons per square mile.

SO_2

We have calculated the theoretical long term maximum ground level concentration of SO_2 resulting from emissions from the chimneys at a local factory. These show that quite substantial long term concentrations are present in some residential areas. It is, however, generally accepted that it is the peak “short term” concentrations which are likely to give rise to complaint from residents; as the maximum three minute concentration is likely to be 30 to 70 times the long term concentration, calculated concentrations of 552 to 1,288 m.g./cubic metre will occur for this period of time. This tends to support complaints received from these areas concerning pollution which can actually be detected by smell and which is claimed to damage garden vegetation. We are continuing to calculate theoretical ground level concentrations of SO_2 which may be attributed to the major pollution sources. It seems likely that results of similar magnitude to those obtained mentioned above will be obtained in several cases, and should new residential development approach these sources, complaints may be expected. Unfortunately there are insufficient volumetric measuring instruments in operation throughout the town, particularly in the suspect areas, to confirm where the short term concentrations are excessive. The standard apparatus records on a twenty-four hour basis and tends to show a figure not greater than about 40% of the peak “three minute” concentration.

PLANT IMPROVEMENT AND HIGHER CHIMNEYS

Industrialists, Works Managers and Plant Engineers are just as familiar with the Clean Air and Alkali Acts and their obvious limitations as we are. We enjoy close co-operation with the Alkali Inspectorate and no doubt more improvements to industrial plant can be effected voluntarily which will reduce pollution. I would stress, however, that assuming all industrial plants and processes are working at 100% efficiency the emission of the products of combustion, drying, processing etc., are such that a considerable area of the town in close proximity to the industries is rendered totally unsuitable for residential development. I would mention that new high rise development near pollution sources will tend to minimise the advantages of high level dispersal from higher chimneys. It seems unrealistic to await technological changes in the processes responsible for pollution since firms using conventional methods of combustion e.g. oil, gas and solid fuel boilers and furnaces have pretty well reached the limit of any major technological improvement.

As an example, the emission of SO₂ into the atmosphere is unlikely to be resolved—the best we can hope for is higher chimneys to existing plant (for which we have no powers). We traced likely “fall-out” areas of pollution from local industries based on formulae prepared by various experts, in particular the U.K.A.E.A., and regarded by the Ministry of Technology and Ministry of Housing and Local Government as the accepted formula for determining points of maximum ground level pollution. The results happen to coincide with our own measurements of points of maximum air pollution in the town.

*SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE CONCENTRATIONS 1967
IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE*

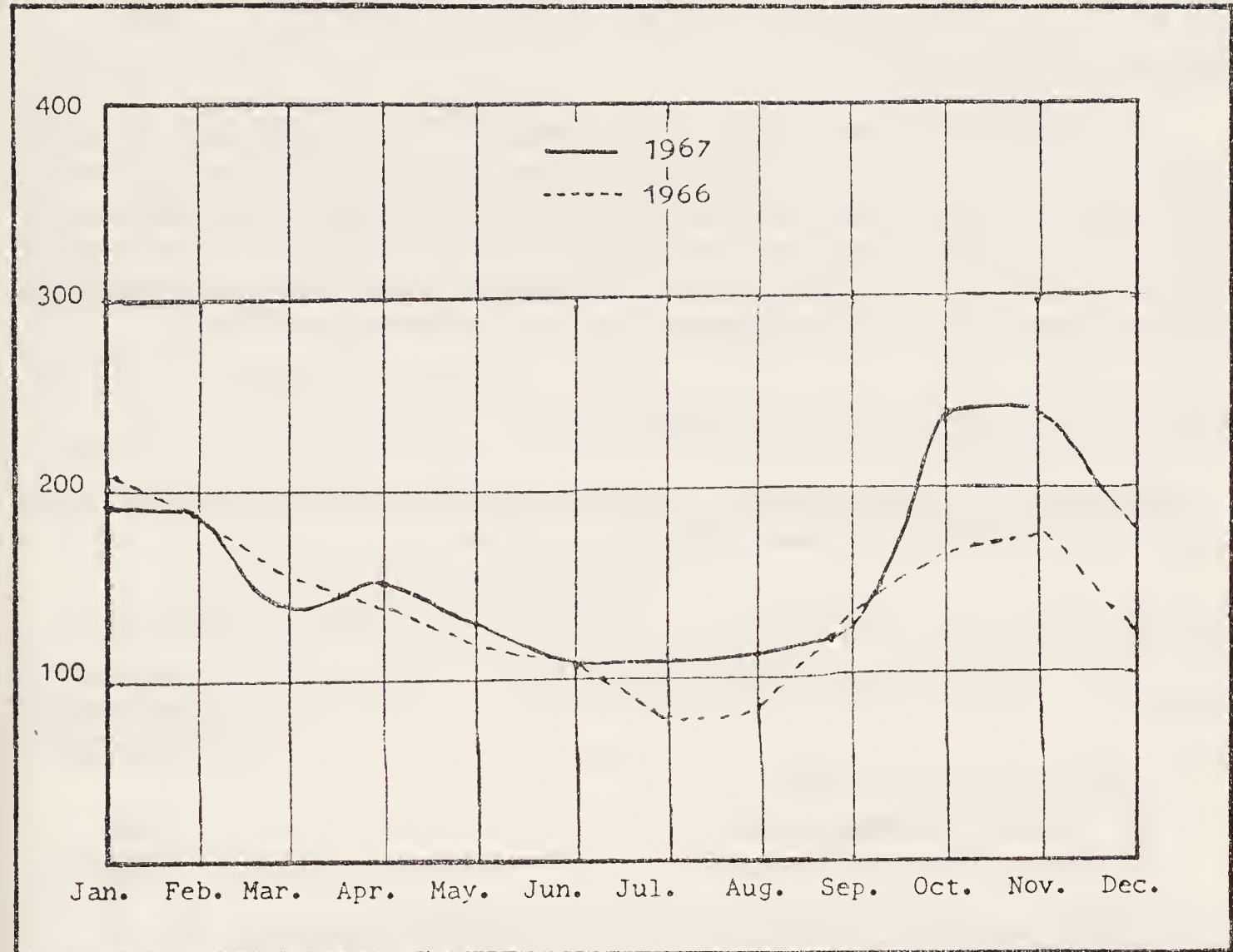
SMOKE						SULPHUR DIOXIDE				
	H.O.	A.D.	OLN.	RAN	Av'age	H.O.	A.D.	OLN.	RAN	Av'age
Jan.	221	253	358	255	272	256	116	209	194	194
Feb.	137	186	193	226	186	269	113	193	174	187
Mar.	71	101	103	147	106	181	64	178	104	132
April	84	103	138	145	118	181	105	157	162	151
May	48	61	60	84	63	171	89	142	104	127
June	19	21	26	34	25	131	71	134	88	106
July	34	N.	48	44	42	115	N.	159	65	113
Aug.	30	44	36	50	40	139	75	146	92	113
Sept.	83	120	121	128	113	135	107	134	113	122
Oct.	46	95	70	109	80	271	239	236	216	243
Nov.	220	296	310	328	289	306	221	205	245	244
Dec.	147	224	204	271	212	223	146	147	196	178
Yearly Mean	95	137	139	152	130	198	122	170	146	159

HIGHEST DAILY READINGS IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE

SMOKE					SULPHUR DIOXIDE			
Month	H.O.	A.D.	OLN.	RAN.	H.O.	A.D.	OLN.	RAN.
January	1261	758	1246	618	778	211	402	339
February	595	633	685	753	583	233	312	396
March	265	326	337	625	335	165	354	221
April	172	196	312	264	288	189	358	364
May	142	123	127	183	280	194	294	234
June	49	81	84	82	234	120	178	168
July	70	52	124	118	179	51	209	87
August	103	121	96	144	299	189	241	187
September	274	310	364	290	239	183	243	188
October....	98	220	120	216	442	485	420	396
November	750	666	898	747	749	638	357	645
December	881	756	857	814	636	399	299	421
No. of readings exceeding: 500	10	9	15	15	10	3	—	2
1000	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
1500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

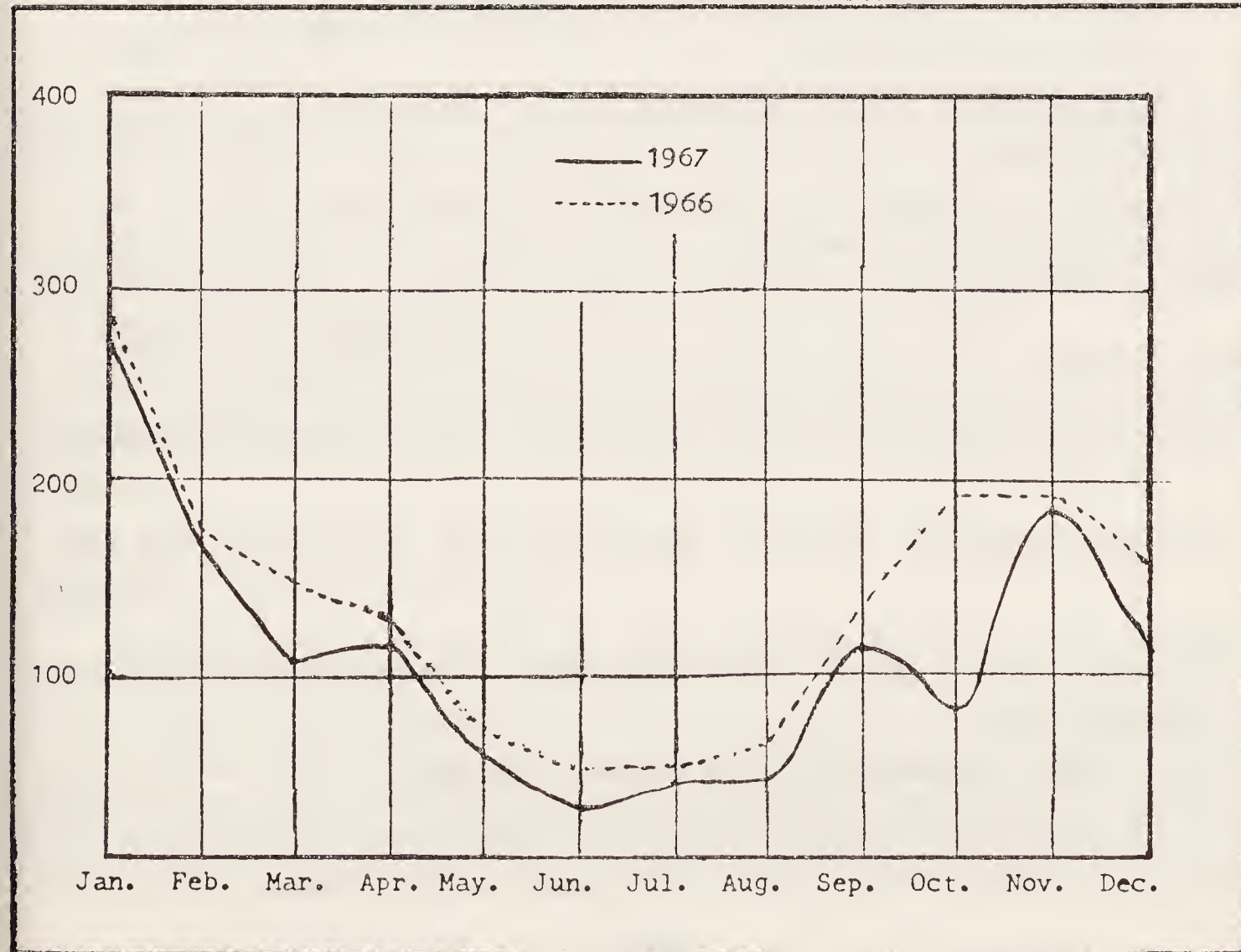
THE GRAPH SHOWS THE SO₂ AVERAGE POLLUTION LEVEL OF THE FOUR WARRINGTON STATIONS DURING 1966 AND 1967

SO₂ Concentrations
(in microgrammes per cubic metre)



THE GRAPH SHOWS THE AVERAGE POLLUTION LEVEL OF THE FOUR WARRINGTON STATIONS DURING 1967 COMPARED WITH THE LEVEL DURING 1966.

Smoke Concentration
(in microgrammes per cubic metre)



SANITATION

NOISE ABATEMENT

The Department received and investigated 79 complaints of noise nuisance, many of which referred to the same source of nuisance. The sound level indicator meter is a standard part of the Department's equipment and despite its limitations assisted in locating and remedying some sources of nuisance. The most common cause of complaint was the hum of machinery incorporating electric motors driving fans and extractor equipment.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS 1936-1961

The following table shows the principal categories where inspections were necessary under the provisions of the above acts:

NATURE OF INSPECTION	No. of Inspections
<i>DWELLING HOUSES</i>	
(i) general <i>external</i> repairs	1208
(ii) general <i>internal</i> repairs	931
<i>SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE</i> e.g. drain repairs, testing, renewals.	513
<i>PLUMBING, W.C's., WATER SUPPLIES</i> e.g. repair and maintenance	360
<i>REFUSE, ACCUMULATIONS, DEPOSITS</i> e.g. removals, clearing sites	210
<i>CLEANSING OF PREMISES</i> e.g. filthy and verminous....	32
<i>MISCELLANEOUS</i> e.g. refuse tips, brooks, water courses, offensive trades....	72
TOTAL....	3,326
<i>NO. OF INFORMAL PUBLIC HEALTH ACT NOTICES SERVED</i>	
= 849	
<i>NO. OF FORMAL PUBLIC HEALTH ACT NOTICES SERVED</i>	
=1,190	
<i>REPAIR OF UNFIT HOUSES BY PUBLIC HEALTH ACT PROCEDURE</i>	
(a) After <i>informal</i> action by District Inspector	149
(b) After <i>formal</i> notice by District Inspector	466

WATER SUPPLIES

Under the provisions of Section 148 of the Public Health Act 1936 and Water Act 1955 it is the duty of the local authority to ensure that every dwelling in the district is provided with a suitable water supply. Mr. W. F. Thacker, M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., has supplied the following information:

The Northern part of the borough is supplied from wells, and adits at Winwick and Houghton Green Pumping Stations, and also from boreholes at Forest Farm, Croft and Lymm Pumping Stations. The Southern area of the Borough is supplied from boreholes at Foxhill and Newton Hollow Pumping Stations in the Frodsham area, and augmented by bulk supplies from Liverpool Corporation aqueducts at (a) Norton and intermittently (b) Aston. The water supplied to consumers during 1967 has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. During 1967 the following analyses have been made:

- (a) from sources and supply reservoirs—28 chemical and 14 bacterial;
- (b) from random points in the distribution system within the borough—3 chemical and 64 bacterial.

All water supplies are chlorinated. No instances of contamination were encountered during 1967. There are no stand pipe supplies within the Borough. Chemical tests for lead from random points supplied by all sources were negative.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Mr. W. Whitfield, M.I.P.C., M.R.S.H., Cleansing Superintendent, has provided the following information: Due to labour difficulties there was a variation in the collection of refuse from the standard week. The weights of refuse collection during the year ended March 1967 were:

House Refuse—21,480 tons.

Trade Refuse—1,130 tons.

Controlled tipping continued throughout the year. A large quantity of industrial refuse normally received at the Corporation tip was diverted to the Old River Bed site, Wilderspool Causeway, in order to speed up the filling of that private tip. With the wider introduction of Clean Air zones and consequent change in character of refuse, together with the shortage of land for tipping of refuse, discussions were commenced for the provision of alternative means of disposal—this is likely to be by incineration.

The salvage service continued throughout the year and proved a real benefit in almost eliminating the spread of paper on the refuse tip, as well as saving valuable land space.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The following information has been provided by Mr. A. A. Laverick, M.I.B.M., Baths Manager and Engineer:

“The baths provision consists of 4 swimming pools, 19 private bathrooms and 1 vapour suite. The four swimming pools contain a total of 270,000 gallons of water and are filled from the town’s domestic supply, details of which have been given in the previous section. The water in the swimming pools is treated by continuous filtration. Water from the deep end of the pool

is drawn by a pump through a strainer and, after the addition of coagulants to flocculate organic matter and to ensure efficient filtration, the water is pumped to the top of the filter units. The filter units comprise 4 x 10 ft. 0 in. diameter vertical cylinders containing sand and a system of collecting pipes in the bottom which discharge the water after it has filtered through the sand. The water is then aerated, reheated and chlorinated before being returned to the shallow end of the the pool. The sand in the filters is washed when necessary by reversing the flow of water which runs to waste during the process. To secure efficient filtration, coagulants in the form of sulphate of alumina and sodium carbonate are added to the water. Break point chlorination is used continuously, the chlorination being applied in the form of chlorine gas. The frequency of change of water in the pool is five hours.

At all times it is aimed to maintain in the swimming pool water sufficient free and available chlorine to meet any possible pollution. a pH value of 7.5 to 7.6, and a residual alkalinity of not less than 200 ppm. The standards have at all times on examination been in accordance with those recommended in Report No. 71 of 1956 concerning the bacteriological examination of water supplies."

RODENT AND INSECT CONTROL

The operatives dealt with 726 complaints of rodent infestation and 165 complaints of insect and other miscellaneous infestations. The figure for rodent complaints shows a considerable increase over the previous year, which is mainly accounted for by an increase in the number of infestations by mice. Mice also continue to be a problem in the Market Hall, where complete eradication is proving to be impossible and very regular treatment is required to keep the infestation down to a low level.

"Warfarin" continues to be the standard poison used against rats, no apparent resistance having developed. Since 1966, Alphakil has been the usual poison used against mice, as considerable resistance was being developed to "Warfarin" among the mouse population.

The contract scheme continued unchanged during the year and is still proving to be a worthwhile venture.

The town sewers were test-baited three times during the year. From a total of 654 manholes baited, "takes" were recorded at only 16, showing a very low level of infestation. These manholes showing a "take", together with adjacent manholes and other manholes throughout the town which have previously shown evidence of infestation, were poisoned with fluoracetamide.

CARAVANS

The occupation of vacant sites by the caravans of itinerant scrap-dealers, which had created considerable problems during the latter part of 1966, continued into January of this year. At the end of January, however, the provision of earth banking and ditching around these sites was complete, and since then there have been no itinerant caravans occupying land in the Borough. Although these bankings have been criticised on the grounds of

unsightliness and possible danger to pedestrians, there is no doubt that they have solved our particular Public Health problem, presumably to the detriment of the adjoining rural and urban districts, where enforcement of eviction is much more difficult and potential sites more numerous.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT 1933

The Pharmaceutical Society Inspector visited the fifty-six premises registered to sell Part II poison, and reported several minor irregularities which are receiving his attention.

LICENSING ACT 1961, CINEMATOGRAPH ACT 1909, PET ANIMALS ACT 1951, ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Duties were carried out under the provisions of the above Acts, including inspections of premises, issue of licences and the keeping of registers.

INSPECTION OF OFFICES, SHOPS AND FACTORIES

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 Health, Welfare and Safety Provisions

This relatively new legislation is proving very demanding and is absorbing almost the full time attention of an Inspector, together with clerical and technical assistance. The Ministry of Labour are most insistent in their requirements and have appointed Superintendent Inspectors to visit local authorities and ensure that the health, welfare and safety provisions of the Act are carried out and detailed records returned to the Ministry of Labour. Other work, in particular the control of industrial air pollution, factory inspection and a number of miscellaneous public health duties has been grossly neglected in order to carry out this work.

The Register of Premises and the primary inspections are completed although unregistered premises are still being discovered. In the future, general inspections will be required of all registered premises and it is anticipated that this will be carried out biennially.

Most of the work this year has been in revisiting premises to secure compliance with outstanding defect notices. In one instance legal proceedings were commenced but the work was done before the Court hearing.

Accidents

It will be seen from the analysis table that we were fortunate in not having to investigate any fatal accidents in Warrington during 1967. The majority of accidents were due to people slipping, falling or being hit by falling or moving objects. Investigations showed that in no case could the accident be attributed to structurally defective premises. One accident was directly attributable to the removal of a machinery guard for routine cleaning.

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND FACTORIES

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector
Statutory Returns to the Ministry of Labour show the following:

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises	No. of premises registered during year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	17	248	15
Retail shops....	17	464	17
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	39	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	82	17
Fuel storage depots	—	3	—
TOTALS....	36	836	49
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT.			703

(B) ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	1,928
Retail shops....	3,060
Wholesale departments, warehouses	366
Catering establishments open to the public	662
Canteens	20
Fuel storage depots	19
Total Males	2,373
Total Females	3,682

(C) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Number of Contraventions found	Section	Number of Contraventions found
4	Cleanliness 2	13	Sitting facilities 2
5	Overcrowding —	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers) —
6	Temperature 34	15	Eating facilities 3
7	Ventilation 4	16	Floors, passages and stairs 12
8	Lighting —	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery —
9	Sanitary conveniences 28	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery —
10	Washing facilities 7	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery —
11	Supply of drinking water 1	23	Prohibition of heavy work —
12	Clothing accommodation 1	24	First Aid 11
			Other matters 44
			TOTAL 149

(D) EXEMPTIONS No. of applications received—Nil.
No. of applications granted—(i) Space, Nil; (ii) Temp,
Nil.; (iii) San. Conv., Nil.; (iv) Running water, Nil.

(E) PROSECUTIONS—Number instituted and completed during the year

Section of Act or title of order or Regulation	Number of persons or companies prosecuted	Number of informations laid	Number of informations leading to convictions
Sections 4, 9 and 10	1	3	Nil (adjourned and later with- drawn on com- pletion of work)

(E) REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported		Total No. Investigated	Action Recommended			
	Fatal	Non Fatal		Prosecution	Formal warning	Informal advice	No action
Offices	—	3	3	—	—	1	2
Retail Shops	—	9	9	—	—	8	1
Wholesale Shops Warehouses	—	4	4	—	—	2	2
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	—	3	3	—	—	2	1
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	—	19	19	—	—	13	6

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail shops	Wholesale warehouses	Catering establishments open to public, canteens	Fuel storage depots
Machinery	—	1	—	—	—
Transport	—	—	2	—	—
Falls of persons	2	5	1	1	—
Stepping on or striking against object or person	—	1	—	—	—
Handling goods	—	1	—	1	—
Struck by falling object	—	—	1	1	—
Fires and explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	1	—	—	—
Not otherwise specified	1	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The following statistics are required by the Ministry of Labour ;

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	32	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	443	37	14	—
(iii) Other premises which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	475	37	14	—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	14	18	—	13	
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
TOTAL	14	18	—	13	

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases to default in sending lists to the Council (3)		No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel { Making etc., Cleaning and Washing	3					

SHOPS ACT 1950

The Sunday trading restrictions continued to be unpopular with the members of the public who have become accustomed to tradesmen ignoring the prohibitions. There is an obvious demand from the public for the weekend garden and do-it-yourself centres. The proprietors of two premises in Warrington have been warned that this type of trading, e.g. selling building and do-it-yourself materials is prohibited, whereas the selling of plants and flowers is permitted.

Adjoining rural areas were notified that similar centres flourish on a Sunday selling everything from compost to swimming pools and garden sheds. Not surprisingly local traders expect to be able to trade in the same way. The restrictions, which are set out opposite, appear to be so out of tune with modern practices as to warrant early revision.

SHOPS ACT 1950—FIFTH SCHEDULE

Transactions for the purposes of which a shop may be open in England and Wales for the serving of customers on Sunday.

1. The Sale of:

- (a) intoxicating liquors;
- (b) meals or refreshments whether or not for consumption at the shop at which they are sold, but not including the sale of fried fish and chips at a fried fish and chip shop;
- (c) newly cooked provisions and cooked or partly cooked tripe;
- (d) table waters, sweets, chocolates, sugar confectionery and ice-cream (including wafers and edible containers);
- (e) flowers, fruit and vegetables (including mushrooms) other than tinned or bottled fruit or vegetables;
- (f) milk and cream, not including tinned or dried milk or cream, but including clotted cream whether sold in tins or otherwise;
- (g) medicines and medical and surgical appliances—
 - (i) at any premises registered under Section 12 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act 1933; or
 - (ii) by any person who has entered into a contract with an Executive Council for the supply of drugs and appliances;
- (h) aircraft, motor or cycle supplies or accessories;
- (i) tobacco and smokers' requisites;
- (j) newspapers, periodicals and magazines;
- (k) books and stationery from the bookstalls of such terminal and main line railways or omnibus stations, or at such aerodromes as may be approved by the Secretary of State;
- (l) guide books, postcards, photographs, reproductions, photographic films and plates, and souvenirs—
 - (i) at any gallery, museum, garden, park or ancient monument under the control of a public authority or university; or
 - (ii) at any other gallery or museum, or any place of natural beauty or historic interest, or any zoological, botanical or horticultural gardens, or aquarium, if and to the extent that the local authority certify that such sale is desirable in the interests of the public; or
 - (iii) in any passenger vessel within the meaning of Part II of the Finance (1909-1910) Act 1910, while engaged in carrying passengers;
- (m) photographs for passports;
- (n) requisites for any game or sport at any premises or place where that game or sport is played or carried on;
- (o) fodder for horses, mules, ponies and donkeys at any farm, stables, hotel or inn.

2. The transaction of:

- (a) post office business;
- (b) the business carried on by a funeral undertaker.

